



***ETIAM NVNC -
(EVEN NOW)***

Class of 2022 School Motto

Next Week is Kendrick Castillo Week at LCS



Next week is Kendrick Castillo Week at LCS. **Kendrick Castillo** was a high-school senior in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, who, on May 7, 2019 rushed a gunman who entered his school. Though fatally shot, Castillo's heroic actions incapacitated the gunman, leaving Castillo as the only student who died. Kendrick Castillo laid down his own life for the sake of his friends, and classmates. Kendrick stands as a towering example of heroism, bravery, and love. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about Kendrick Castillo.

All-School Newsworthy Notices

Dear Families of Liberty Common School (k-12):

Since last week's school communication to all LCS families (Wed 11 Aug) regarding pandemic mitigation ([CLICK HERE](#)), a new federal bulletin was issued, days ago, by which a COVID-related mandate extends to school-bus passengers. That order can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

If you plan for your child to ride an LCS bus for shuttling between campuses, and/or in transit to an offsite event, please ensure she or he wears a facemask in compliance with the federal mandate. The school will furnish extra masks for students needing one (but our supply is certainly not unlimited).

Though explaining the new bus-related mandate is the main purpose of this communication, it also serves as an opportunity to restate the School's COVID protocols, and procedures. With the school year starting Monday, all LCS families are advised of the following accordingly.

Liberty Common School operates on the universal premise that it is the right and responsibility of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children. As such, unless compelled under threat of force by some governing authority of valid jurisdiction, the school will not act to undermine the inviolable authority of parents.

In due deference to parents, Colorado's state government has affirmed it will honor the judgment of citizens in responding to localized pandemic circumstances. The state has issued public-health opinions, and recommendations for Colorado residents to consider which the school supports for individual evaluation, and response.

Some federal public servants have also issued similar recommendations, and opinions. For example, the government agency Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides guidance and commentary relative to current outbreaks ([CLICK HERE](#)) including E.coli, salmonella, listeria, and COVID-19. Adhering to these state and federal approaches, the school fully supports, and respects the authority of parents to direct healthcare behaviors for their family members – including children attending our school – which to them, are judged to be most prudent.

LCS maintains ongoing communication with local public-health workers, and is prepared to assist them if lawfully forced to manage student-quarantine orders throughout the year. The opinions and guidance of the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment are [POSTED HERE](#) for all LCS families to consider in their healthcare decision making.

It is unacceptable for students to be at school if they are not feeling well, or displaying any symptoms of illness. This is not a new, COVID-related protocol, and it was the number-one strategy in successfully containing the spread of illness in our school last year.

Children should be kept out of our school buildings if they exhibit any one the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Loss of taste and smell
- New or unexplained persistent dry cough
- Tiredness
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- Fatigue
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Any student exhibiting any of these symptoms – even if just one of them – at school will be sent home immediately (they'll be masked up, and isolated while waiting). It is imperative that parents be proactive, and well ahead of the school in isolating symptomatic students.

Please keep a copy of the State's "How Sick is too Sick" guidelines close at hand, linked [here](#) on the school website. Students who are symptomatic should remain home from school until they are symptom free for 24 hours.

To ease student congestion, elementary-school students may enter the building upon arrival. Please drop off your k-6 child between 7:30 and 8:00AM on school days. Building doors will open at 7:40AM allowing students to enter the building and settle in for the day. There will be no staff on duty before 7:30AM. As such, diligent adherence to this drop-off window is essential.

We will also conduct a staggered release at the end of the day. Classroom instructors will dismiss students in a staggered manner in one-minute intervals to reduce exiting congestion in the hallways. Please be patient as we navigate this new release, and monitor its effectiveness.

We expect families to consider the most appropriate way to protect their children while balancing their individual tolerance for risk. Our intent is to provide the freest delivery of high-quality, in-classroom education for our students and staff, while layering sensible virus-mitigation practices that honor parental authority, and preferences. This best maintains a large community of respect, mutual admiration, and judicial harmony.

These layered practices include:

1. Needlepoint bipolar ionization fully installed to disinfect and sanitize the air in both buildings -- [CLICK HERE](#) for more information including a “How It Works” video.
2. Enhanced the capacity of HVAC units to allow more fresh air into both buildings.
3. Student desks are maximally distanced in classrooms.
4. Students are prompted in frequent hand washing, and sanitization.
5. Sick, symptomatic students, and staff may not enter either school building.
6. High-frequency deep-cleaning, including surface sanitization throughout both campuses.
7. CDC-mandated mask wearing for school-bus transit.
8. Vaccines available in the community for those who wish to be vaccinated.
9. This list of multi-layered mitigation tactics is not exhaustive.

Valid opinions on the efficacy of wearing masks in school relative to COVID vary widely, and therefore present a potential for viewpoint polarization within any school community. We, and Liberty’s Board of Directors, have received opinions spanning a spectrum of conclusions. Respecting each family’s authority to direct the best course for their children is an infrangible canon, consistent with state and county strategies, in navigating risk while fostering the school’s prime imperative – promoting the highest levels of knowledge acquisition for the students whose families have chosen to educate them at our excellent school.

Please feel free to contact your student’s instructors if you feel you need assistance in coaching your child toward adherence with your family’s intentions regarding mask wearing in school. Please feel free to contact your student’s building principal if there is some unique situation with which you believe extraordinary assistance might be helpful.

Informational updates on LCS’s COVID-19 responses are reported at the school’s website – [CLICK HERE](#) – and conveyed weekly (Fridays) in *Liberty Common Sense* newsletters.

We appreciate everyone’s commitment and grace in working with the Liberty staff and administration for an optimal school year. We are committed to providing frequent and timely communications as pandemic protocols and procedures evolve.

In our happy part of the world, every family has multiple options to consider when choosing the best academic setting for their children. Accordingly, every employee of Liberty Common School is honored by the families who have chosen this institution to assist them in the education and upbringing of their children. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this virtuous endeavor.

Sincerely,
Liberty Administration and Staff



Getting Ready. Liberty faculty and staff have been hard at work over the past few weeks getting ready for Monday's launch of a new school year. Pictured nearby are staff members getting two-year Red Cross certifications in adult and pediatric first aid, CPR, and AED resuscitation. Twenty-eight completed the certification course yesterday. About as many were certified last year, and more are scheduled for similar trainings later in the year. In addition to being an expert teaching staff, LCS employees are well prepared for emergency situations, too. We're thankful for all who volunteer annually to take hours of training which they do out of love for their students, coworkers, and visitors.

Important Upcoming Dates

August 23 | First Day of School.

August 24 | Back-to-School Night (Parents Only) | 6:30 p.m., [Back-To-School-Night Parent Agenda](#).

August 26 | Board of Directors Meeting | 6:00 p.m. | LCHS Acropolis.

August 27 | Liberty T-shirt Day.

August 30 - September 1 | 6th Grade to Eco Week.

September 6 | Labor Day. No school.

September 20 | Public Information Night | 6:30 p.m. | LCS.

September 24 | Liberty T-shirt Day.

September 24 | Fall Festival | 5:30 p.m.

September 26 | Board of Directors Meeting | 6:00 p.m. | LCHS Acropolis.

News Worth Repeating

[2021-22 School Activity Fee.](#)

[Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures.](#)

[Host a Foreign- Exchange Student.](#)

[Volunteering at Liberty](#)

[Substitute Interest Form.](#)

[Liberty2Liberty 5K Form](#), [Liberty2Liberty 5K Web Registration](#)

Shuttle Transportation. Bus services between LCS and LCHS will begin running the first day of school, August 23rd. Buses will depart LCS at 3:10. Parents, please be prompt when picking up your student(s) at the high school. Signing-up for shuttle transportation can be done when completing on-line student registration. All passengers must wear masks while aboard the bus.

Lunch Information Update- Wholesome Foods will be providing pre-ordered lunches again this year, beginning September 6, 2021. Please send your child with a sack lunch prior to September 6th. Watch for more information about Wholesome Foods lunch services in *The Liberty Common Sense*.

Robotics Returning to Liberty. Parents of 4th- 6th grade students, [CLICK HERE](#) for important information. [CLICK HERE](#) for application. Deadline for application is Aug. 30, 2020.

Board of Directors

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You may contact all members of our Board of Directors at BOD@libertycommon.org

STAY CONNECTED

