

# WELCOME TO TEAM ELECTRIC BLUE!

## TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

Dear Parents,

August, 2023

Welcome to Team Electric Blue at Lincoln Middle School and the 2023-2024 school year! Middle school is a huge transition for many students because it is filled with so many new routines. For most students, this will be their first time opening a locker, traveling between classes, and receiving letter grades that reflect their progress. Most importantly, this will be their first experience with independence. Many students will test the limits of this independence, which is why on Team Electric Blue we believe in a TEAM approach, and you and your child are part of that TEAM! With your daily support and effort, as well as the support of our teachers, success is a possibility for every child. There are times that it won't be easy, but if we are all working together and doing our individual parts, then success will happen!

This Team Electric Blue packet contains some general contact information and ways for you to stay connected to what's happening academically and socially at school and on our team, TEAM expectations, and some helpful ways to help your child at home throughout the school year. If you ever find yourself questioning something regarding your child, need a progress update on behavior or academics, or have a question for a specific teacher, please use the contact information to contact any of us.

We look forward to a partnership with you and your child, one that will foster success in 6th grade. Again, welcome to Team Electric Blue!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Delfarno* (ELA)

*Mrs. Mackey* (Science)

*Mr. Manzi* (Social Studies)

*Mrs. Pike* (Special Ed.)

*Mr. Wall* (Math)



## 2023-2024 Grade 6 Supply List

### Welcome to Lincoln Middle School

<b>MATH</b>	<b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 RED <u>PLASTIC</u> 2-pocket folder</li> <li>● 1 RED <u>5-SUBJECT</u> notebook</li> <li>● 8 dry erase markers</li> <li>● Basic 4-function calculator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 GREEN <u>PLASTIC</u> 2-pocket folder</li> <li>● 1 GREEN <u>1-SUBJECT</u> notebook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 YELLOW <u>PLASTIC</u> 2-pocket folder</li> <li>● 1 YELLOW <u>1-SUBJECT</u> notebook</li> <li>● Summer Reading assignment by the 2nd day of school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 BLUE <u>PLASTIC</u> 2-pocket folder</li> <li>● 1 BLUE <u>1-SUBJECT</u> notebook</li> </ul>		
<p><b>General Supplies for ALL Classes</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Post-It Notes</li> <li>● At least 24 pencils</li> <li>● At least 12 pens (mix of red, blue, &amp; black)</li> <li>● Handheld pencil sharpener (w/ cover)</li> <li>● 1 package of large “pink” erasers</li> <li>● 24-pack of colored pencils OR crayons</li> <li>● 1 package each of thick and thin markers</li> <li>● Sharpies - fine and ultra-fine point (optional)</li> </ul> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● scissors</li> <li>● 4-color pack of highlighters</li> <li>● 2 pencil pouches/bags (one for art supplies and one for everyday supplies)</li> <li>● earbuds or headphones</li> <li>● <b>A box of tissues and bottle of hand sanitizer for your homeroom teacher</b></li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Post-It Notes</li> <li>● At least 24 pencils</li> <li>● At least 12 pens (mix of red, blue, &amp; black)</li> <li>● Handheld pencil sharpener (w/ cover)</li> <li>● 1 package of large “pink” erasers</li> <li>● 24-pack of colored pencils OR crayons</li> <li>● 1 package each of thick and thin markers</li> <li>● Sharpies - fine and ultra-fine point (optional)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● scissors</li> <li>● 4-color pack of highlighters</li> <li>● 2 pencil pouches/bags (one for art supplies and one for everyday supplies)</li> <li>● earbuds or headphones</li> <li>● <b>A box of tissues and bottle of hand sanitizer for your homeroom teacher</b></li> </ul>
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**\*Optional:** Some students may find it easier to use the Avery 6-pocket organizer (Item # 47696 - pictured top right) for all classes instead of separate colored folders for each subject. **Note: Not organizationally functional for all students.**



**\*Note:** Additional materials may be required throughout the year due to normal wear-and-tear, loss of materials as students travel from class-to-class, or as class activities may warrant different materials.

# TEAM ELECTRIC BLUE COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

## Team Website:

Visit our team/teacher website for important upcoming dates and other important information for parents and students. Be sure to visit and bookmark <http://lmselectricblue.weebly.com>.

## Agenda Pad:

Traditionally known as an assignment pad, at Lincoln Middle School, we refer to it as an agenda pad because it sets the agenda for what needs to be done at home in order to be successful at school the next day. Students will be provided with an agenda pad on the first day of school and are responsible to record daily assignments, long-term projects/assignments, and upcoming assessments directly from the homework board in each classroom into their agenda pad when directed to do so during class. Each class has an assignment board with assignments posted daily. This is a great communication tool between school and home! The agenda pad will work as a checklist and get students in the routine of using and writing their assignments down daily.

## Sign-up for Remind: Stay informed with what's happening at school!

- ★ Remind is a one-way message service that allows the team to anonymously text/email parents and/or students. Text messages/emails may include team reminders and notifications of what's going on on Team Electric Blue or reminders and notifications of whole school updates and events. Students in middle school often fail to communicate all that is going on in school or on our team. This service keeps you informed only if you subscribe! **To subscribe, send a separate text message to 81010 with the code @eblue2324 in the message box.**

## Clever:

Clever brings all K-12 applications a district/teacher uses together in one secure portal so that one secure login username and password will work for them all. Once students are logged into Clever, they have secure access to all of the applications they see available to them.

## Teacher Email Addresses:

The best way to contact a Team Electric Blue teacher is through email. Please do not hesitate to contact any teacher if a need arises. As part of fostering a sense of responsibility in your child, if you have a question he or she may be able to answer, start there. If they know the lines of communication are open between all of us, they'll be more likely to answer honestly. If you need additional clarification, email us directly.

<b>Mrs. DeFarno (English):</b>	<a href="mailto:delfarnea@lincolnps.org">delfarnea@lincolnps.org</a>
<b>Mrs. Mackey (Science):</b>	<a href="mailto:mackeyup@lincolnps.org">mackeyup@lincolnps.org</a>
<b>Mr. Manzi (Social Studies/Team Leader):</b>	<a href="mailto:manzim@lincolnps.org">manzim@lincolnps.org</a>
<b>Mrs. Pike (Special Education):</b>	<a href="mailto:pikel@lincolnps.org">pikel@lincolnps.org</a>
<b>Mr. Wall (Math):</b>	<a href="mailto:walld@lincolnps.org">walld@lincolnps.org</a>

## Google Classroom:

Students will be invited to join individual subject area classrooms in Google Classroom, one application available in Clever. Here, students will find daily agendas, class warm-ups, links to help them study, videos to watch, assignments to complete and submit electronically, and/or nightly homework posts, etc.. Each teacher sets up and organizes their Google Classroom page as it works best for their classroom, but there may be some similarities.



## Skyward:

Skyward offers online gradebook access for each class on your child's schedule. Grades are updated within two weeks of the assignment's due date (long-term projects or lengthy assessments may take longer), and access to this information keeps an open dialogue between school and home.

*Parents: Please see the directions on accessing your Skyward account in the orientation folder you were provided on August 24th.*

*Students: You will be provided your own login information very soon if you have not set up an account already, but you should have done so at the end of 5th grade.*

**\*\*\*Please get into the habit of checking your grades in Skyward at least once per week.\*\*\***

# CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK

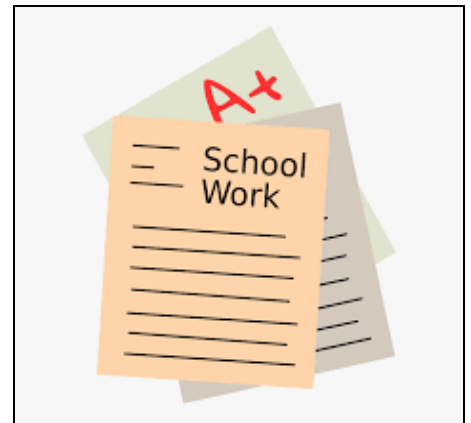
## ADVICE, TIPS, & TRICKS

### In school...

- ★ If a teacher feels classwork or homework is important enough to assign, then the expectation is that students complete the assignment because it is important to their mastery and success of a particular skill/skill set.
- ★ Students are expected to copy their homework/assignments from the homework/assignment board displayed in each classroom into their agenda pad daily.
- ★ Parents should verify that the assignments students are completing match the assignments written down in the agenda pad. Students are not given much, if any, time in school to start their homework.
- ★ Students should be spending no more than 60 **productive** minutes per night on homework. Please contact a teacher if it is consistently more than this.

### At home...

- ★ If a student is repeatedly saying, “I have no homework,” or “I did it all in school,” he/she is probably not being truthful. Ask the student to show you the work and cross-reference it with the agenda in which he/she should be writing homework assignments.
- ★ Studying is homework contrary to what students may think! Studying is important!
- ★ Designate an area at home where homework/classwork can be completed and that can be easily monitored by an adult.
- ★ Remove distractions from the student’s work area. No cell phones, tablets, TVs, video games, etc.!
- ★ Whenever possible, homework/classwork assignments should be completed by students only. A student’s difficulty to complete an assignment will provide the teachers with information to further help your child. Parents may assist but should note such struggles via email to the teacher, especially if the student is becoming frustrated.



# TEAM ELECTRIC BLUE POLICIES

## Attendance and Absences:

- ❖ Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of homeroom at 8:05. Students not in their homeroom by 8:05 will be marked tardy or absent. **Consistent attendance is extremely important to success in middle school!** Remember to report your child absent for the day by calling the LMS main office at 721-3400.
- ❖ When your child is absent, please check the teachers' Google Classroom pages for work that will need to be made up and/or contact the teacher for any paper copies to be sent home with a sibling or friend or to be picked up by a parent at the main office after 2:30.
- ❖ Students have as many days as they were absent to make up and hand in any work missed during their absence.
- ❖ Students are responsible to hand in the assignments once completed. Teachers may at their discretion accept late assignments but will not track down students for work.

## Late Homework/Classwork:

- ❖ Our job in 6th grade is to, with your help at home, begin teaching responsibility, yet we understand the transition to middle school can be a difficult one. Therefore, per the district's grading policy, teachers may allow late assignments to be handed in for at least partial credit.
- ❖ In Skyward, missing assignments will be documented as MISSING with an asterisk or a zero. Those marked with an asterisk will be converted to a zero before progress reports/report cards if the assignments still are not handed in.

## Daily Required Materials:

Each day, your child should enter each classroom with the following:

- ❖ Agenda pad
- ❖ A charged Chromebook (provided by LMS)
- ❖ Earbuds or headphones
- ❖ Colored folders/notebooks:  
Math (red), English (yellow), Science (green), Social Studies (blue)
- ❖ Textbooks/workbooks (if applicable)
- ❖ Pencils and pens

# TEAM ELECTRIC BLUE POLICIES

## Snacks and Water Bottles

- ❖ Students are allowed to carry a bottle of water with them throughout the day and it is their responsibility to maintain its whereabouts. Teachers and the school are not responsible for lost or stolen water bottles.
- ❖ Each morning during the third period of the day, students are allowed to eat a snack from home. This snack must be peanut/treenut free due to students with allergies on our team. We suggest fresh fruit and/or veggies, Goldfish brand crackers, Cheez-It brand crackers, or Pirates Booty because we know these items are peanut/tree-nut free.
- ❖ Teachers reserve the right to ask a student to put away a snack if it contains peanut/tree-nut ingredients or if the snack is a distraction to others (i.e. students are sharing it or passing it around, it is more of a meal than a snack, etc.).

## Period 5 Skills:

- ❖ Period 5 Skills is a class each day that is used for a variety of purposes. Each quarter, students will rotate through one of the four core teachers' classrooms (Math ELA, Science, and Social Studies).
- ❖ The weekly schedule in these classes will remain the same - Mondays and Fridays will be used for silent reading time and team time (which will be a reward for students who are meeting academic and behavioral expectations.). Tuesdays and Thursdays will be used for content extensions for the different core classes students are in each quarter. Wednesdays will be used for a silent study period during which students may see any of their core class teachers for extra help, make up missing assignments from absences or just due to failure to hand in work on time, work on projects, use the library, etc..
- ❖ This is not a graded class, but any work completed on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the content extension periods could be used towards their content grade for that quarter.
- ❖ Only students who have met academic and behavioral expectations (all work handed in, no write ups to the office, etc.) will be allowed to participate in team time on Mondays and Fridays. Team time will be held outdoors as often as weather permits. It will look similar to "recess" in elementary school but since it is not a required part of our day as it was in elementary school, it will be used as a reward for students. Our goal is for as many students as possible to participate, but our priority is for all students to pass their classes.

# Team Electric Blue Parent Communication and Student Information Form

We'd like to get to know your child better. We'd also like to communicate with you regarding your child, if needed. Please completely fill out this page and have your child return it to his/her homeroom teacher by Friday, September 8th. Thank you!

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY! PLEASE PRINT NEATLY! PLEASE PRINT NEATLY!

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Phone (best to reach you): \_\_\_\_\_

Is this phone number:

- Cell
- Home
- Work

Parent 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Phone (best to reach you): \_\_\_\_\_

Is this phone number:

- Cell
- Home
- Work

PLEASE TURN OVER →



## About your child...

Typically, how would you describe your child's performance in school?

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Please list any extra-curricular activities (dance, sports, piano, hobbies, etc.) in which your child participates outside of school:

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Please let us know if you have any **GENERAL** questions or concerns about this year. **NOTE: Any concerns about specific classes should be emailed to the specific teacher so that they may be addressed.**

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Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.