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Important Announcements:

New Start/ End Time!
School day runs from...
8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Our Main office is
now room **337B**

SAVE THE DATES:

**FIRST DAY OF
SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 9TH**

New students:
8:00 to 3:00

Returning students:
12:00 to 3:00

PTA meeting/Meet
the Teachers Night
September 29th
6:00 to 7:30

Families Essential to School Community

Our families are essential to our success in school, and are an important part of the community at Lyons. This year we hope to bring even more families into the school regularly – for everything from attending student presentations to our first **Family Sports Night**, to our monthly **PTA meetings**. We also welcome families to get involved in school whenever their schedule allows and to join us on Field Studies trips.

Our first family event of the 2009 – 2010 school year was the **family potluck picnic** that ended our Summer Bridge program. Families of incoming 6th and 9th graders, students and staff shared a great evening in McCarren Park. Upcoming events this year include our two **Talent Shares**, in December and June, our **Literary Celebration** in January, the November **Potluck**, and many more.

Family-Teacher Conferences are also an

important event, held twice each year. During conferences, the student, family and the student's advisor meet to talk about the student's strengths and needs and to plan for the rest of the school year.

How can you get involved right away?

- * Call your child's advisor regularly; look for progress reports, and ask questions!
- * Spend 30 minutes each night talking about the school day
- * Arrange a visit to school – just call to arrange!



Annual Community Potluck 2009

The First Week of School at Lyons

Dear spectacular Lyons families,

In a few short weeks, on September 9th we will start our third year as a school. For the first time we will have 8th and 11th graders. We are so close to being our full size.

We believe those first few days of school are truly crucial to setting the tone for the entire school year. People's first impressions are very important. For that reason we do not follow a typical school day those first few days of school.

As is becoming a tradition our first day starts with students who are new to Lyons. Those students get three hours in the morning with the entire staff to start building relationships with each other and the staff. Instead of watching the students who have been at Lyons for years joyously greeting each other, wondering if they are ever going to feel that comfortable, new students get to take their

first steps in a more intimate and calm environment.

At noon we are finally a full community. Returning Lyons students join us for a variety of activities including team building, advisement, academic classes and art.

We know the time spent getting to know each other and establishing that we are a safe community, where we support each other and where each person is seen as a whole person, enables everyone to feel more comfortable at school. We also want students to experience what learning looks like and to know how seriously we take our academics. If there was any doubt before, by the end of our first week, everyone will know that at Lyons each student is pushed and supported to reach her/his potential as a learner and person.

with love, Taeko

Important Reminder: **TWO RULES** you shouldn't forget:

School starts at 8:00 AM every day. This means that teachers begin teaching and classrooms start doing serious work at 8:00 AM. People who arrive late miss out on important learning, and they make it harder for teachers to teach and people to learn. **Two unexcused latenesses** of 15 minutes or more = DETENTION!

Electronics of any kind are NOT allowed in NYC Public Schools. Electronics – phones, sidekicks, MP3 players – interrupt learning and make our school unsafe. If electronics are seen or used they will be confiscated, and students will receive a consequence!

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, September 9th – **Summer Reading assignments due** – Summer Reading assignments will be collected on the first day of school. Each student is expected to have read three books at their reading level, and kept a reading response journal in notebook.

Wednesday, September 9th – **First day of school** – 8:00 am start time for new students; 12:00 start time for returning students (returning students can come at 11:00 for lunch)

Monday, September 28th – School Closed for Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 29th – Meet the Teachers Evening and First PTA meeting

Friday, October 2nd – Field Day, 11:30 to 3:00 – All students travel to McCarren Park for games and picnicking

Monday, October 12th – School Closed for Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 27th – PTA Meeting and Math Curriculum Night – Meet the math teachers and learn about the Lyons mathematics curriculum

Thursday, Oct. 29th evening and **Friday, Oct. 30th afternoon** – Student-Family-Advisor Conferences



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