



April 17, 2017

Welcome back Lodestar Families!

What's happening in Quarter 4?

(Mark your calendar)

Upcoming Events

1st annual Lodestar Talent Show

May 19th

6-8pm

Lodestar MPR

Lodestar Spring Expo Night

June 2nd

Time: TBD

Lodestar End of Year Celebration & Family SLC Circles

Friday, June 16th

8am-1:30pm

Facility Update

What we know!

We will be able to occupy St. Jarlath located on Pleasant St. and grades K - 3 will go to school there. It's a lovely school that can hold about 300. We are very grateful for the Catholic Diocese to welcome us there.

What we're still working on

King Estates to house 6 - 7th grade

King Estates located on Fontaine Ave. is a district facility that we would need to develop by placing portables on it. We're running into some obstacles with lease negotiations at the district level. We will know early next week if this possibility still exists. If we go to King Estates, we will need to invest \$1.2M on the site and we cannot justify spending that kind of money unless we are going to be there for a long term with more kids (K - 8 at least) in 2018-19

Other private church sites

Waiting to hear back from them.

Prop 39 Offer from the district

As a reminder: Prop 39 is a law that states districts must house all students (including charter school students) in their facilities. We are pushing back on the offer the district has provided us for K-3 and 6/7 (4 classrooms at 4 different sites) and asking them via legal counsel that we need 7 contiguous classrooms at schools close to St. Jarlath for our middle school.

Hoping for the Best, Planning for the Worst

We are hoping for the best which is to serve 390 students in grades K - 3 and 6 - 7 next year. If we cannot find a solution that works for 6 - 7, an option exists that we would not enroll 6th grade (or a portion of 6th grade) and take 300 students in grades K - 3 and 7th to St. Jarlath.

What's Next

- We're waiting to hear back from our lawyers regarding the district's response to our push back on the problematic King Estates lease that they've provided us. We will know where this site stands early next week.
- We're waiting to hear back from the district on our Prop 39 offer. This has a more formal timeline associated with it and our final Prop 39 offer won't be provided until June, but will know more re: potential sites in the negotiation stage.
- We're still working hard on some private options.

Starting a school is no easy feat, as we all know. This challenge is expected with being a new charter in a difficult and trying political and real estate climate.

We're going to make the best of whatever situation we find ourselves in. We are **LODESTAR!**

**With Lodestar Love,
Jenna and Yanira**

Ps. Feel free to preview the [Slide Show presentation](#) we shared with families on Thursday, April 13th.

Intent to Return

Lodestar is looking ahead to the 2017-18 academic school year. The first step in ensuring your student's space for next year is to fill out the intent to return form linked below. Your prompt response to this request is very important and helps the school plan for the next year. Please complete the intent to return for my April 21st. A summer registration process will also need to be completed for full enrollment for the following school year. Additional information on dates and required documents will be shared soon.

Please note: If you decline your child's enrollment for the 2017-18 school year and wish to re-enroll your child in Lodestar, you will have to reapply to Lighthouse Community Charter School through the standard enrollment process and wait list. No preference is given to former Lodestar students who chose to reapply after they've declined their enrollment.

Please reach out to your crew leader and/or the main office if you have any questions about this process.

Click [here](#) to download the Lodestar Intent to Return Letter

Lodestar Attendance Spotlight

School Attendance is the Key to a Successful Future
Student Attendance = Student Success

Goal: 100% Attendance

- Students with good attendance do better in school, feel a sense of agency and belonging, lead their own learning and are more likely to graduate.
- Students who lead their own learning miss 9 or fewer days of school per year.

*Chronically Absent students miss 17 or more missing days of school.
At Risk absent students miss 10-16 days of school*

If you want your Lodestar student to have good attendance, please make sure they DO NOT miss more than 9 days of school.

What Parents Can Do:

- **Send your Lodestar Student to school everyday on time**, starting in Kindergarten. Unless the student has: temperature of 100 degrees or higher or has had a fever in the last 24 hours, vomited in the last 24 hours, has irritated red eyes, has any sign of head lice or has a severe cough
- **Don't let your Lodestar student miss school without a valid reason.** Avoid medical appointments during the school day or vacations when school is in session.
- **Create routines and stick to them!** Make sure your Lodestar student goes to bed early so that he/she will be ready to lead their own learning. Gather school clothes and supplies the night before in order to be prepared for school the next day.
- **Maintain a positive attitude about school and attendance.**
- **Contact your child's crew leader** if your child is having problems attending school regularly.

Updates/Reminders

Message from the Ms. Roxana

- Outstanding Lunch balances for students **MUST** be paid to complete the 2017-18 registration process.
- Payments can be made in checks, money orders or exact cash.
- Contact Ms. Roxana Rodriguez by email: roxana.rodriguez@lighthousecharter.org or call the main office with any questions.

Message from our Lunch Supervisors:

- Introducing new lunch options: Starting on April 17th students will have cold & hot lunch options along with new veggies.
- Please check out the [April lunch calendar](#) to see this months lunch options.
- We will no longer warm up the following food items:

- 1.) Popcorn
 - 2.) Maruchan noodle soup
 - 3.) Any frozen meals (that requires more than a minute)
- For example: Hot pockets/frozen meals, ETC.

Upcoming Events

This months Coffee Tuesday will take place on 4/18 at 8:30 in the Creativity Lab. We will discuss English Language Learners and the supports offered from our school. Please join us to learn more!

March Snapshots



