

WELCOME BACK

Free Meal at Open House Night! Join us in the cafeteria on Monday, August 10th anytime between 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. for hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips ~ thanks to the beef donations from the Burt County Cattlemen's Association and Bullet & Lindsey Beaudette.

PK-6th Grade Open House

PK-6th grade open house is scheduled for **Monday, August 10th, from 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.** Parents and students are encouraged to come to school together, visit the classrooms, and meet the elementary teachers and staff.

Elementary Reminders

Students need a pair of P.E. shoes that they wear for indoor use only. These do not need to be "new," but reserved for use on the gym floor only. Please make sure shoes have non-marking soles.

Physical Education Classes love to take advantage of nice weather and participate in many outdoor units and games. Please make sure your students bring their outdoor shoes on days they may be wearing flip-flops or sandals.

Preschool Students may enter the building at 8:00. Breakfast will be served in the PK Classrooms. The school day for preschool begins at 8:00 a.m. K-6 Students who are eating breakfast may enter the building at 7:50. All other students should arrive at 8:00 a.m. The school day begins at 8:15 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m..

LAPTOP ROLLOUT AND PAPERWORK

7th-12th grade guardians **AND** students are asked to join us on **August 10th from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.** in the north gym. After a short presentation by Administration, the 7th - 12th grade students will complete the "Laptop Agreement" and "Laptop Protection" forms and receive their laptop computer. Following the presentation, all 12th grade students and guardians will be asked to attend a meeting to discuss all things "senior year."



There will be an opportunity that evening to pay class dues, lunch money, and laptop agreement deposit.

We will NOT be offering in-person credit card payments the evening of open house. Online payments must be submitted by noon August 10 through eFunds. The link for account registration is on the school website, as well as step-by-step directions, see flyer attached.

Class Dues: \$20/year (\$10/semester) – Junior High Students
\$30/year (\$15/semester) – High School Students

7th Grade & New Secondary Student Orientation

7th Grade & New Secondary Student Orientation will immediately follow the short presentation in the gym. All 7th grade and new secondary students and their Parents will have a meeting, where we will have an open forum to discuss topics such as:

- Computer Insurance
- Class Schedule
- Attendance Policy
- Cell Phone Policy
- Dress Code
- Free or Reduced Meals
- Before & After School Hours
- PowerSchool Accounts

Student Absence

When your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school at 402-687-2363 or email attendance@lyonsdecaturschools.org. Do not email the classroom teacher, as this information is needed by the office.

First Day of School:

The first day of school will be Thursday, August 13th. Doors will be open at 7:50 a.m. **This will be a full day of school.** Elementary students will report to their classrooms at 8:15 a.m. and secondary students will report to the gym at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast and hot lunch will be served. Regular day dismissal times are elementary at 3:30 p.m. and secondary at 3:43 p.m.

Door Security: During the school hours of 8:15 a.m. to 3:43 P.M., all doors will be locked. All doors will be operational for emergency exiting in all buildings. The purpose of this procedure is to increase security measures for the Northeast School System. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Visitors

All visitors to the school are required to sign in and sign out at the **new main entrance on the west side of the school**. Please sign in/out at the office upon entering/exiting the new entrance. Parents are always welcome and visits by parents to classrooms are encouraged, provided that the visits do not disrupt the educational program, individual students, or create a safety concern. **As a common courtesy to our instructional staff, the school requests that parents/guardians contact the teacher of the class(es) they wish to visit 24 hours before the occurrence of a general classroom visit.**

Breakfast & Hot Lunch Program: An excellent breakfast & hot lunch program will be offered daily. Menus will be published on our school website www.lyonsdecaturschool.org. Breakfast is served from 7:50-8:10 A.M. **The new price for breakfast is \$2.50 for students. The new lunch prices are Preschool \$3.05, Grades K-5 \$3.35; Grades 6-8 \$3.55, Grades 9-12 \$3.75.** An afternoon milk is available to grades PreK – 4th Grade, the cost is .50 cents. Meals, afternoon milk tickets and a la carte (seconds) may be purchased at the main office or online. There is a link on the school website for paying online, click "School Funds/Lunch Info" and then **E-Funds for making payments**. A Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Family Application is enclosed with this mailing, and you can apply for meal benefits anytime during the school year. Parents can look up their child's account balance and activity online, through **EZSchool** or call the main office for an account print out. No a 'la carte or seconds charges can be made on an account with a negative balance. **There is a \$25.00 meal charge limit per family, before the school will enforce a substitute meal.** An account with a negative balance for more than 60 days, will be marked no a 'la carte or seconds for the remainder of the school year. Unpaid meal charges are resolved in the Superintendent's office. All charges must be paid at year-end of the school year. Both the Charge Policy and School Wellness Policy are on-line. www.lyonsdecaturschools.org

Transportation: Bus and van transportation will be utilized to transport students to and from Decatur. **There is new bus pick up and drop off this year.** Pick up and Drop Off will be on the north side of the Sears Center. On a regular dismissal day, it will leave Decatur at 7:35 a.m. sharp and return at 4:00 p.m. Two buses are provided. If for some reason your child does not ride the bus after school to Decatur, contact the school office and they will let the bus driver know.

Mileage: Parents should fill in the number of miles they live from the center in their ward, on the emergency form sent home with their children the first day of school. East ward to the Decatur Center and West Ward to the Lyons Center. These forms are to be returned within a week. Nebraska School Law: 79-611 states mileage will be paid for students in grades K-12. Mileage is not paid for preschool students. A parent must live 4 miles from the drop off point to qualify.

Extracurricular Drug Testing Program

The school district supports and values student participation in extracurricular activities, but such participation in school district extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Students in all extracurricular activities in grades 7-12 shall be subject to mandatory and random testing for the presence of, tobacco/nicotine, alcohol, or illegal drugs.

Purpose of Random Drug Testing

- a. The school district has recognized that observed and suspected drug, alcohol, and tobacco/nicotine use, and abuse has increased among the student population, including students participating in extracurricular activities.

- b. The school district seeks to provide safe, substance-free schools.
- c. The school district seeks to deter the use of illegal and prohibited drugs, alcohol, and tobacco/nicotine among students.
- d. The school district recognizes that students who use illegal and prohibited substances pose a threat to the health and safety of themselves, other students, teachers, administrators, and other persons.
- e. The school district believes that the drug, alcohol, and tobacco/nicotine problem among the student body will be addressed by making sure that the large number of students participating in extracurricular activities do not use drugs, alcohol, and tobacco/nicotine and have an ongoing reason to say, "No," when presented with a chance to use.

Extracurricular Activities. This policy applies to any activity that meets the guidelines of an extracurricular activity at the school district which includes but is not necessarily limited to the following: Athletic Programs, Art, Band, Cheerleading, Dance, Choir, Educator Rising, FBLA, FFA, Homecoming, HOSA, Mock Trial, NHS, One-Act, Prom, Quiz Bowl, Skills USA, Speech, Spring Play, STEM, Student Council.

Students Who Are Required to Submit to Drug Testing

Grades. All students in grades 7-12 who participate in any extracurricular activity or competition are part of the pool subject to random drug testing.

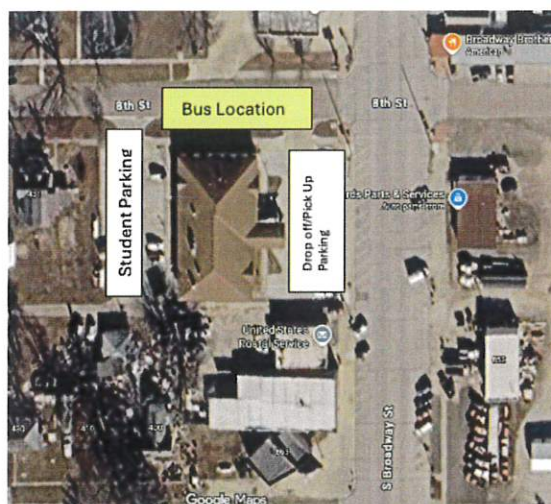
Consent. A student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign a consent form before the student shall be eligible to practice with, or participate in, any extracurricular activity.

Selection Pool Eligibility. Students shall remain in the selection pool for an entire calendar year (365 days) from the date the consent form is received by the school district.

Withdrawal. Students who have a consent form on file remain eligible for drug tests from the date the consent form is received by the school district and throughout the remainder of the 365 days or until the student files a Withdrawal of Student from Activity form signed by the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s). Upon withdrawal, the student shall not be eligible to participate in any activity that is subject to drug testing for 365 days.

New Decatur Bus Stop

The location of the LDNE Bus & Shuttle Pickup and Drop Off has moved to the North Side of the Sears Center, at the corner of S. Broadway & 8th St. Students who are leaving a vehicle should park on the west side of the Sears Center and parents dropping off/picking up are welcome to park on the east side. Please see the map below and contact the school with any questions.





Sports Physicals Needed:

Students in grades 8-12 must have a sports physical if they plan to participate in extra-curricular athletic activities. (7th grade students are required by the State to have a physical examination). All physicals must be completed and turned into the front office prior to participation in a school athletic activity.

Fall Athletics:

Conditioning week will be held August 3rd – 7th. Football and Cross Country will go from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. daily. There is no volleyball conditioning. A Daily shuttle will depart from Decatur at 3:30 p.m. and return following conditioning.

The first week of practice for High School Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball will be August 10-14th from 4:00-6:00 PM. A shuttle will depart from Decatur Monday-Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. and return following practice.

6025

Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices

Students may NOT use cellular phones or other electronic devices while at school during school hours.

Any student who is found to be in possession of any cellular phone, or other electronic device (AirPods, personally-owned tablet, gaming device, etc) during school hours is in violation of this policy and the student code of conduct.

Staff who discover students in possession of a cellular phone or electronic device while at school during the school day will immediately confiscate the device and turn it into the administration.

In addition to the disciplinary consequences imposed, a parent or legal guardian of the offending student must pick up the confiscated devices from the office in person. The administration will return the device to the parent or guardian, after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation.

Students who repeatedly violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including expulsion.



THE OFFICIAL FALL PHOTO DAY

LYONS, DECATUR, NORTHEAST SCHOOLS

FALL PHOTO DAY:
THURSDAY AUGUST 27 2026
JUEVES 27 DE AGOSTO DE 2026

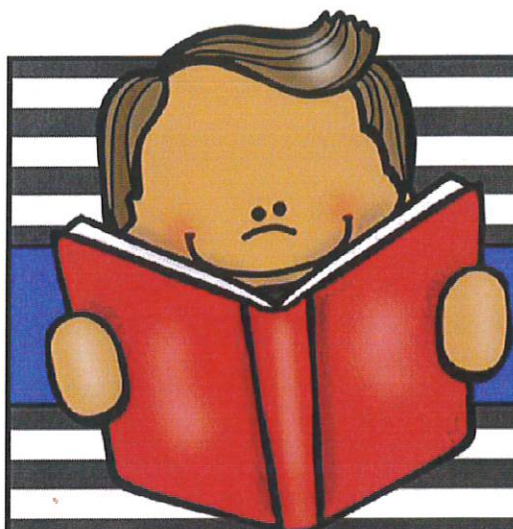
MAKE UP PHOTO DAY:
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23 2026
MIÉRCOLES 23 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2026

**Following photo day, information
will be sent home with instructions
on how to order.**



www.DSSchools.com

Después del día de la fotografía, se
enviará información a casa con
instrucciones sobre cómo realizar
el pedido.



library news august

Welcome back to another exciting school year! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer filled with fun, family, and a little time to relax. The library is ready for another year of great books, new adventures, and opportunities to learn and grow together. Whether students are checking out their next favorite story, researching a class project, or learning new technology skills, I look forward to helping each one discover, create, and succeed. Here's to a fantastic year of curiosity, kindness, and learning!

Mrs. Rebecca Barber
rbarber@ldne.org

REMINDERS

The LDNE website offers a variety of valuable resources for students and families. From the More drop-down menu, select Resources to access our Online Media Resources, which are available both at school and from home. Some resources require a password. If you need login information or have questions, stop by the library or email Mrs. Barber for assistance.

SORA EBOOKS & AUDIOBOOKS

Did you know that all students have access to thousands of eBooks and audiobooks through the Sora app? Every student already has an account set up and ready to use!

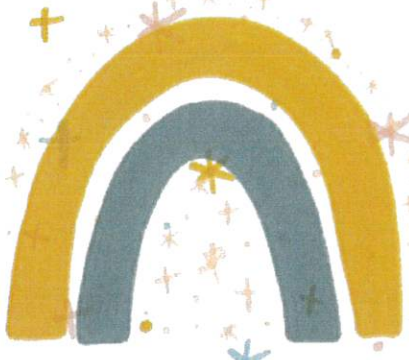
- Younger students log in using Clever.
- Older students sign in using their Google Single Sign-On (SSO).

The Sora app can be installed on smartphones and tablets, and students can also access their accounts through any web browser on a laptop or desktop computer.

Our digital library is part of the Nebraska Schools Shared Digital Collection, which is separate from the collection offered through local public libraries.

If you have questions or would like assistance setting up Sora on your student's device, Mrs. Barber is happy to help! Please email rbarber@ldne.org to schedule a time or to get additional information.





All About the Book Fair



Book Fair Information



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming again to LDNE! Shop for your next favorite read. Join us on Wednesday, September 30th from 12-7 pm in the Media Center for the annual Scholastic Book Fair.

Students can also shop the book fair Monday-Thursday before & after school.

Using eWallet makes this easy!



Online Shopping

The Online Book Fair will be open 9/28 - 10/11

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/lyonsdecaturneschldist>

Thousands of books are available in the online store and will be shipped directly to your home!

All proceeds from the in person & online fair are given back to the school to purchase resources and books.



eWallet

Creating an eWallet for your child lets them shop the Fair on their own without bringing cash to school. Because anyone can contribute to an eWallet (like extended family members and friends), your eager reader can take home even more books. It's easy to set up. Scan the QR code below to find your fair, create an eWallet, and share it with your family and friends.



Shop in Person or Online:

In Person Community Book Fair Event

When: Wednesday, Sept. 30th

Time: 12:00 - 7:00 PM

Where: Media Center

Payment Options: Cash, Check, eWallet & Card

*Make Checks Payable to LDNE School



Questions?

Email: rbarber@ldne.org

25-26 LDNE **YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION**

AUGUST 10TH

**PRE-PURCHASED YEARBOOKS
CAN BE PICKED UP FROM THE
MEDIA CENTER DURING
ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE ON
AUGUST 10TH!**

Forgot to order a yearbook last year?
A small number of books will be available for purchase.
\$40 Cash or Check to LDNE

Lyons-Decatur Northeast Supply List

<u>3 Year Old Preschool</u> Crayola 8 count watercolor paints 1 box of Crayons 1 box of Washable Markers 1 pair blunt tip scissors 4 glue sticks 2 glue bottles 2 containers disinfectant/sanitizing wipes 2 box Kleenex 3 Package of baby wipes Full size backpack (big enough to hold a folder) Reusable water bottle (to keep at school) Change of Clothes to be kept at school (pants, shirt, socks, underwear, shoes) Rest time Materials: Combined pillow/blanket rolled up mat works best! Or Nap Mat (1 inch, usually red on one side and blue on the other), Small Pillow, Blanket.	<u>4 Year Old Preschool</u> 2 glue sticks 1 (8 count pack) Black expo markers 1 box tissues Full size backpack 1 Family Picture (we will laminate) Emergency pack of clothes Refillable water bottle PE shoes pillow/blanket rolled up mat works best! Or Nap Mat (1 inch, usually red on one side and blue on the other), Small Pillow, Blanket <u>(1 inch red/blue nap mats only, others do not fit in our storage space)</u>	<u>Kindergarten</u> Backpack 4 (24 count) Crayola Crayons 1 (12 count) Crayola Markers 1 (8 count) Black Expo Markers Plastic Pencil Box Watercolor Paint Set Scissors 2 Boxes of Tissues 10 #2 Yellow Pencils 2 Large Glue Sticks 1 Folder 1 Container of Clorox Wipes Headphones (No earbuds or bluetooth) PE Shoes (Velcro if cannot tie) Refillable water bottle
<u>1st Grade</u> Backpack Plastic pencil box 2 Packs (24 count) of Crayons 2 Boxes of Tissues 2 Large glue sticks 1 Bottle of Glue 4 Black Expo markers 1 Box of yellow #2 pencils 3 Large pink erasers 3 Folders (solid colors: red, green, black) Scissors 1 Container of Clorox Wipes P.E. Shoes Refillable water bottle Headphones (no earbuds)	<u>2nd Grade</u> Backpack Box of Yellow #2 Pencils 3 Big Pink Erasers Scissors Bottle of Glue 2 Large Glue Sticks P.E. Shoes 2 Large Boxes of Tissues Book Bag 2 Boxes of 24 Pack Crayons 10 Black Expo markers Headphones (no earbuds) Refillable Water Bottle 1 Container of Clorox Wipes	<u>3rd Grade</u> 1 Package of Pencils (not mechanical) 1 Box of Crayons 1 Box of Markers 1 Glue Stick 4 Big Pink Erasers (not pencil toppers) 1 Pair of Scissors 2 Expo Dry Erase Markers (any color) 2 Bottles of Disinfectant Wipes 2 Boxes of Kleenex Backpack Pair of Tennis Shoes - to be left at school for P.E. 1 Folder Earbuds or Headphones (optional) *3rd graders do NOT need a pencil box*
<u>4th Grade</u> Book Bag 20 Pencils 2 Large Erasers Small pkg of Markers or Crayons 4 Highlighters 8 Dry Erase Markers Scissors Glue 2 Notebooks 4 Folders P.E. Shoes & Deodorant 2 Large Boxes of Tissues Earbuds or Headphones Stylus (optional)	<u>5th Grade</u> Bookbag 20+ Pencils 5+ Dry erase markers 4 Notebooks 5 Folders 1 large eraser 1 Highlighter PE shoes 2 large boxes of tissues Earbuds/headphones	<u>6th Grade</u> Bookbag 30+ pencils 1 large eraser 10 pack colored pencils 2 highlighters 2 red pens 6 dry erase markers (1)1" clear view binder 5 folders PE shoes and deodorant 2-3 large boxes of tissues earbuds/headphones
<u>7th-12th grade supply list</u> <u>All Classes:</u> notebook, pens, pencils and folder <u>Science:</u> 1 Subject Notebook 1 Basic set of colored pencils Highlighters Notecards 2" three-ringed binder	All 7-12 Students please bring a box of kleenex, can be dropped off in the office.	

LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENU

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Cold Sandwiches may be substituted for the main dish: **Monday**; Peanut Butter & Jelly, **Tuesday**; Ham & Cheese, **Wednesday**; Turkey & Cheese, **Thursday**; Sub (2 meats & cheese), **Friday**; Yogurt & Cheese Stick. A chef salad is available to Grades 4 through 12th.
Milk, juice or fruit and vegetable offered daily.

August 2026 *Menu is subject to change *Peanut-free sandwich available upon request

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	4	5	6	7
10 B) Danish, fruit, milk L) Crispos with cheese sauce Green Beans Fruit Milk	11 B) French Toast Tornado Fruit, Milk L) Spaghetti Romain Lettuce Fruit, Milk	12 B) Breakfast Sandwich, fruit, milk L) Corn Dogs Potato Smiles Fruit, Milk	13 PRE-K-Donuts B) Bosco sticks, fruit, milk L) Chicken Nuggets Traingle Potato Corn & fruit Milk	14 B) Donuts, fruit, milk L) Hamburgers Baked Beans & chips Fruit Milk
17 B) Danish, fruit, milk L) Crispos with cheese sauce Green Beans Fruit Milk	18 B) French Toast Tornado Fruit, Milk L) Spaghetti Romain Lettuce Fruit, Milk	19 B) Breakfast Sandwich, fruit, milk L) Corn Dogs Potato Smiles Fruit, Milk	20 PRE-K-Donuts B) Pancake on stick, fruit, milk L) Chicken Cordon Bleu Mashed Potatoes and gravy Corn, Fruit, Milk	21 B) Donuts, fruit, milk L) Hot ham and cheese Baked Beans Chips Fruit and Milk
24 B) Egg Bites, fruit, milk L) Chicken Breast Rice Green Beans Fruit and Milk	25 B) Stuffed French Toast Fruit and Milk L) Meatballs Rosemary Potatoes Mixed Vegis,, Fruit, Milk	26 B) Muffin, Fruit, Milk L) Beef Sticks Mashed Potatoes and gravy Corn Fruit and Milk	27 PRE-K-Donuts B) Breakfast Burrito, Fruit, Milk L) Hot dog on bun Peas Fruit and Milk	28 B) Donuts, Fruit, Milk L) Rib Sandwich Baked Beans and Chips Fruit and Milk
31 B) Eggs and Hashbrowns, fruit and milk L) Pork Patty Mashed Potatoes and gravy Corn, Fruit and Milk				

LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENU

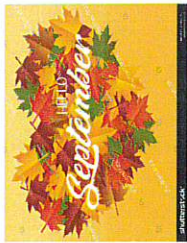
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Milk, juice or fruit and vegetable offered daily.

September 2026

*Menu is subject to change

*Peanut-free sandwich available upon request

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 1 B) Breakfast Bar, fruit, milk L) Chicken Patty on bun Green beans Fruit and milk	2 B) Biscuits & gravy, fruit, milk L) Crisпитos with cheese sauce Baked Beans Fruit and Milk	3 pre-k Donuts B) French Toast sticks, Fruit, milk L) Sloppy jo's, mac&cheese Peas, fruit, milk	4 B) Donuts, fruit, milk L) Chinese Chicken Fried rice, cooked broccoli Fruit and milk	
7 NO SCHOOL	8 B) Cinnamon Roll, fruit, milk L) Chicken Strips Tatertots carrots ,fruit, milk	9 B) Pancake on stick, fruit, milk L) Beef stuffed sandwich Baked beans Fruit and milk	10 PRE-K-Donuts B) Bagel, fruit, milk L) Salisbury steak Mashed potatoes and gravy Fruit and milk	
14 B) Pancakes bites, fruit, milk L) Pizza stick Vegetable Blend Fruit and milk	15 B) Bosco Sticks, fruit, milk L) Meatloaf Mashes potatoes and gravy Corn Fruit and milk	16 B) Belgian waffle, fruit, milk L) Lasagna rollups Green beans Fruit and milk	17 PRE-K-Donuts B) Breakfast Pizza, fruit, milk L) Hamburger on bun Baked Beans Fruit and milk	
21 B) Muffin, fruit, milk L) Hot ham and cheese sandwich Carrots Fruit and milk	22 B) Breakfast Casserole fruit and milk L) Walking Taco Corn Fruit and milk	23 B) Pancakes, fruit, milk L) Beef stocks Mashes potatoes and gravy Green beans Fruit and milk	24 PRE-K-Donuts B) French Toast, fruit, milk L) Popcorn chicken Onion Rings Baked Beans Fruit and milk	
28 B) Mini chocolate chip Toasters, fruit, milk L) Chicken Fajias Vegetable Blend Fruit and milk	29 B) Egg & Bacon, fruit, milk L) Hot dog on bun Peas Fruit and milk	30 B) Stuffed Waffle, fruit, milk L) Chicken Nuggets Mashed potatoes and gravy Corn Fruit and milk	 25 B) Donuts, fruit, milk L) Turkey, Bacon, Swiss wrap Peas Fruit and milk	

PAWS Newsletter

August and September

Upcoming Dates

Regular Hours: 3:30–5:30 PM

August 17: First Day

August 19: Open 2:00-6:00

August 26: Closed

September 2: Open 2:00-6:00

September 7: Closed

September 9: Open 2:00-6:00

September 16: Open 2:00-6:00

September 23: Open 2:00-6:00

September 25: Closed

September 30: Closed

Donations

Our after-school program enriches student learning — and grants cover only part of the cost.

If you can, please donate through our Amazon Wish List (QR code) or send a monetary donation.

Your support makes a big difference.

Thank you!



PAWS Amazon Wish List

Important Notes

- Decatur shuttle leaves Lyons at 5:15.
- Please make sure your child is picked up on time to avoid any late policy suspensions.
- Due to grant requirements, we ask that students stay at the program for at least 1 hour daily. We know this isn't possible every day, but the grant only covers the cost of students who stay at least 1 hr.

Introductions

Staff

Kendra Boden



Ruth Weiland



Flo Blevins



Cassidy Cole



Diana Flores



Lanie Frahm



Contact

(402) 695-5742

afterschool@ldne.org

Follow on FB

@AfterSchoolLDNE

LYONS-DECATUR NORTHEAST

2026-2027

August 2026

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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December 2026

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

Aug. 10-12 Teacher Meetings and Workdays
 Aug. 13 - 1st Day of School, full day
 Aug. 19 & 26 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

September

Sept. 7 - NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY
 Sept. 30 - 12:00 dismissal, PT Conf. 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

October

Oct. 2 - No School
 Oct. 16 - End of 1st Quarter, No School for Elementary
 Oct. 16 - 7-12 Incentive Day
 Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

November

Nov. 25-27 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING
 Nov. 4, 11, 18 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

December

Dec. 16 & 17 - 7-12 Semester Finals (All Students)
 Dec. 17 - 12:00 p.m. student dismissal, last day for Elementary
 Dec. 18 - End of 1st Semester, 7-12 incentive day
 Dec. 2, 9 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice
 Dec. 21 - Jan 4th - No School

January

Jan. 4 - Teacher inservice
 Jan. 5 - 1st Day of Semester 2 Classes
 Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

February

Feb. 4 - 12:00 dismissal, PT Conf. 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 Feb. 5 - No School
 Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

March

March 4 & 5 - No School
 March 12 - End of 3rd Quarter, No School for Elementary
 March 12 - 7-12 Incentive Day
 March 26 & 29 - No School
 March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

April

April 13 - No School, Cougar Invite - teacher inservice
 April 22 - No School, JH Cougar Invite - teacher inservice
 April 7, 14, 21, 28 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice

May

May 8 - Graduation at 2:00 p.m.
 May 17 & 18 - 7-12 Semester Finals (All Students)
 May 18 - 12:00 p.m. student dismissal, last day for Elementary
 May 19 - End of Second Semester, 7-12 incentive day
 May 5, 12 - 2:00 dismissal, teacher inservice
 May 20 - Teacher Workday

**** Could be future date changes ****

January 2027

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
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February 2027

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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March 2027

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April 2027

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027

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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools

400 South 5th Street PO Box 526
Lyons, NE 68038
Phone Number 402-687-2363
Fax Number 402-687-2472

August 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **LDNE** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$2.50**; lunch costs **\$3.05(Pre-K), \$3.35(K-5), \$3.55(6-8), \$3.75(9-12)**. **Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals.** In accordance with the [Nebraska Hunger-Free Schools Act](#), reduced price breakfast and lunch are \$0 for school year 2026-2027. If your child(ren) qualified for free or reduced price meals at the end of last school year, you must submit a new application by **September 24, 2026** to avoid an interruption in meal benefits.

This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. Who can get free or reduced-price meals?

- All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

2. How do I know if my children qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway?

Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail [school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator].

3. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?

No. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **LDNE, Attn: Heather Lauritsen, PO Box 526, Lyons, NE 68038.**

4. Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are already approved for free meals?

No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **LDNE, Attn: Heather Lauritsen, PO Box 526, Lyons, NE 68038, or call 402-687-2363 or email hauritsen@ldne.org** immediately.

5. Can I apply online?

You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if your school district makes this option available. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit **lyonsdecatur.school.org** to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact **LDNE, Attn: Heather Lauritsen, PO Box 526, Lyons, NE 68038, or call 402-687-2363 or email hauritsen@ldne.org** if you have any questions about the online application.

6. My child's application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out a new one?

Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school, or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.

7. I get WIC. Can my children get free meals?

Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please send in an application.

8. Will the information I give be checked?

Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.

9. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later?

Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

10. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?

You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **LDNE, Attn: Heather Lauritsen, PO Box 526, Lyons, NE 68038, or call 402-687-2363 or email hauritsen@ldne.org**.

11. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?

Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.

12. What if my income is not always the same?

List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you

normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

13. What if some household members have no income to report?

Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.

14. We are in the military. Do we report our income differently?

Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.

15. What if there isn't enough space on the application for my family?

List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact **LDNE, Attn: Heather Lauritsen, PO Box 526, Lyons, NE 68038**, or call **402-687-2363** or email **hlauritsen@ldne.org** to receive a second application.

16. My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for?

To find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits, please go online to **ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov** or call **1-800-383-4278**.

If you have other questions or need help, call **402-687-2363**.

Sincerely,

Heather Lauritsen

Instructions for Completing the Free & Reduced-Price School Meals Family Application

For households receiving benefits from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

- **Part 1:** List each child's name, the school they attend, and their grade.
- **Part 2:** Enter the household's Master Case Number if the household qualifies for SNAP, TANF or FDPIR.
- **Part 3:** Skip Part 3.
- **Part 4:** Complete Part 4. An adult must sign the form.
- **Part 5:** Part 5 is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

For households with foster, homeless, migrant or runaway children

If all children in the household are foster children:

- **Part 1:** List all foster children, the school they attend, and their grade. Check the box indicating the child is a foster child.
- **Part 2:** Skip Part 2.
- **Part 3:** Skip Part 3.
- **Part 4:** Complete Part 4. An adult must sign the form.
- **Part 5:** Part 5 is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.

If some of the children in the household are foster children or are homeless, migrant or runaway children:

- **Part 1:** List all children, the school they attend, and their grade. Check the appropriate box.
- **Part 2:** If the household does not have a Master Case Number, skip Part 2.
- **Part 3:** Follow the following instructions to report total household income from the previous month.
 - **Column 1: Household Members:**
 - List the first and last name of each person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.
 - **Column 2: Gross Income and How Often it was Received:**
 - Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions; it is not your take-home pay. For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must also report how often the money is received – weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster care payments. If you have no income, write "0" or leave the income field blank. By doing this, you are certifying there is no income to report.
 - Earnings from Work includes the following:
 - Salary, wages, cash bonuses

- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)
- If you are in the U.S. Military, include:
 - Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, Family Subsistence Supplemental
 - Allowance (FSSA) payments or privatized housing allowances)
 - Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing
 -
- Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony includes the following:
 - Unemployment benefits, Worker's compensation
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash assistance from state or local government
 - Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), Strike benefits
 - Child support payments, Alimony payments
- Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income includes the following:
 - Social Security payments
 - Private pensions or Disability benefits
 - Regular income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income
 - Regular cash payments received from outside the household
-
- **Household Size:**
 - Enter the total number of people in your household.
- **Social Security Number:**
 - The adult signing the form must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN) or check the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

- **Part 4:** Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.
- **Part 5:** This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.

Please note: Children who meet the definition of homeless, migrant or runaway, are eligible for free meals. However, the school district must have documentation on file from a migrant coordinator, homeless/runaway liaison, or the district's Direct Certification list to approve the child for free meals.

For ALL other households

- **Part 1:** List all children, the school they attend and their grade.
- **Part 2:** If the household does not have a Master Case Number, skip this part.
- **Part 3:** Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.
 - **Column 1 – Household Members:**
 - List the first and last name of each person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share income and expenses. Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.

○ **Column 2 - Gross Income and How Often it was Received:**

- Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions; it is not your take-home pay. For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must also report how often the money is received – weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster care payments. If you have no income, write “0” or leave the income field blank. By doing this, you are certifying there is no income to report.
- Earnings from Work includes the following:
 - Salary, wages, cash bonuses
 - Net income from self-employment (farm or business)
 - If you are in the U.S. Military, include:
 - Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, Family Subsistence Supplemental
 - Allowance (FSSA) payments or privatized housing allowances)
 - Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing
- Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony includes the following:
 - Unemployment benefits, Worker’s compensation
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash assistance from state or local government
 - Veteran’s benefits (VA benefits), Strike benefits
 - Child support payments, Alimony payments
- Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income includes the following:
 - Social Security payments (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)
 - Private pensions or Disability benefits
 - Regular income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income
 - Regular cash payments received from outside the household.

○ **Household Size:**

- Enter the total number of people in your household.

○ **Social Security Number:**

- The adult signing the form must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN) or check the box to the right labeled “Check if no SSN.”

- **Part 4:** Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.
- **Part 5:** This part is optional and does not affect your children’s eligibility for free or reduced price meals. If you do not select race or ethnicity, one may be selected based on visual observation.

Return Completed Application to: LDNE, PO Box 526, Lyons, NE 68038

Part 1: Children in School

List names of all children in school (First, Middle Initial, Last).
If all children listed are foster, skip to Part 4 to sign the form.
If some of the children are foster or are homeless, migrant, or runaway children, complete all steps of the application.

Grade

Name of School Child Attends

Check all that apply:

Foster Child Homeless, Migrant, Runaway

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐**Part 2: Assistance Programs – SNAP, TANF or FDPIR Benefits**

Enter **MASTER CASE NUMBER** if household qualifies for SNAP, TANF or FDPIR:
(Social Security numbers, Medicaid numbers and EBT numbers are not accepted.) Skip to Part 4

Part 3: Total Household Gross Income – You must tell us how much and how often.**1. Household Members**

List **everyone** in the household, current income each person earns in **whole dollars** (no cents) & how often. Entering "0" or leaving the income field blank certifies no income to report. A foster child's **personal** use income must be listed.

2. Gross Income (before taxes) and How Often it was Received

Earnings from Work before deductions

Public Assistance, Child Support, Alimony

Pensions, Retirement and All Other Income

Income

How often

Income

How often

Income

How often

Total Number of Household Members:
(Children and Adults)

Last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of the adult signing this form: XXX – XXX –

Check if no SSN ☐**Part 4: Adult Signature and Contact Information – An adult household member must sign the application.**

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Sign here:

Print name:

Date:

Street Address (if available):

Zip:

Daytime Phone:

Part 5: Children's Ethnic and Racial Identities – Optional**Check one Ethnic Identity:**

– and –

Check one or more Racial Identities:☐ Hispanic or Latino☐ Asian☐ Black or African American☐ Native Hawaiian or☐ Not Hispanic or Latino☐ White☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native

other Pacific Islander

Do Not Fill Out the Section Below - For School Use Only

Annual Income Conversion:

Weekly X 52;

Every 2 weeks X 26;

Twice a month X 24;

Monthly X 12

Total Household Size: _____

Total Income: _____ per

☐ Year ☐ Month ☐ 2 X Mo ☐ Every 2 Wks ☐ Week☐ Free☐ Reduced☐ Denied☐ Income☐ Income

Reason for denial:

☐ Categorically eligible:☐ Income too high☐ SNAP/TANF/FDPIR☐ Incomplete application☐ Foster Child☐ Homeless/Migrant/Runaway:

(Official Documentation Required at School)

Signature of Determining Official:

Date Approved:

FOR THE VERIFICATION PROCESS ONLY:

Signature of Confirming Official:

Date Confirmed:

Signature of Verifying Official:

Date Verified:

Date Withdrawn From School:

Your children may
qualify for free or
reduced price
meals if your
household income
falls at or below the
limits on this chart.

FEDERAL INCOME CHART for School Year 2026-27					
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	29,526	2,461	1,231	1,136	568
2	40,034	3,337	1,669	1,540	770
3	50,542	4,212	2,106	1,944	972
4	61,050	5,088	2,544	2,349	1,175
5	71,558	5,964	2,982	2,753	1,377
6	82,066	6,839	3,420	3,157	1,579
7	92,574	7,715	3,858	3,561	1,781
8	103,082	8,591	4,296	3,965	1,983
Each additional person:	10,508	876	438	405	203

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number are not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We may share your eligibility information with education, health and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

Mail:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Mail Stop 9410
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Fax:

(202) 690-7442

Email:

program.intake@usda.gov

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