



October Monthly 2023

# Spencer Trail Times

Principal - Mrs Deirdre Scott

Assistant Principal - Mrs Jennifer Christophersen

Secretary - Mrs Jamie Key

Secretary - Mrs Jennifer Trautvetter

Superintendent - Dr Lori Motsch

Office Hours - 7:20am - 3:50pm

Phone number - 815-462-7007

## A Note From Your Principals:

Dear Spencer Trail Families,

It is absolutely amazing to us that just a short time ago, we were anxiously awaiting the start of school. As we enter our second month of school, the familiarity of a school routine has developed. We are so very proud of our students as they have "settled in" and are busy learning new things every single day!

On September 21st, the kindergartners had their first Character Counts Lesson highlighting the Character Trait; Responsibility. We discussed what it means to be responsible and the importance of being a responsible person. Part of responsibility is knowing what is appropriate for school. Please remind your children to use kind words, be a good friend and keep their hands to themselves. Our next Character Counts lesson will be on October 19th. The students will learn about the Character Trait; Respect.

The month of October is quite busy. We will have school picture day, a week devoted to making "healthy choices" and we end the month with dressing up for Halloween. With all that is planned over the next month, please take some time to ask your child to share what they are enjoying most about school. Fostering a positive attitude about school is extremely important at this age. Many thanks for all that you have done to give us a great start!

Mrs. Deirdre Scott

Principal

Mrs. Jenny Christophersen

Assistant Principal

# October

**October 3rd** - Coffee with the Principals (see weekly newsletter for sign-up)

**October 9th** - Holiday: No School

**October 12th** - Picture Day



**October 17th** - School Board Meeting at 6pm

**October 19th** - Character Counts - wear **Yellow** for Respect  
PTO Meeting at Ridge LRC 7:30 PM

**October 23rd-27th** -Red Ribbon Week  
Erin's Law Presentations in each neighborhood

**October 30th** - Halloween at Spencer Trail

**October 31st** - Half Day Institute. *PM & DK students attend for an extended day 8:25am-11:25pm. NO SCHOOL for AM students.*



# A Note from Nurse Cami



## Spencer Trail families:

Thank you for helping us meet the state requirements by returning your physical and immunization information. **If you still have not uploaded your child's physical and immunizations, please do so ASAP and no later than October 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid having your child excluded from school.** Public Act 95-0671 became effective January 1, 2008 requiring all children enrolling in kindergarten, or any student enrolling for the first time in a public or parochial school on or after this date to have an eye examination by a physician or an optometrist within one year prior to entering school. This exam is to be completed and the form turned in by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Proof of dental evaluation is needed by May 1<sup>st</sup> so please remember at your child's next visit to have the dentist complete the dental examination form. Copies of all health related forms are available on [www.nlsd122.org](http://www.nlsd122.org) website, just click on registration forms and you will see a list of all related health forms you might need. Thank you.

If your child is sick and will be absent from school, please call the office to let them know.

815-462-7007

# Important Information



## Coat Drive with NLPD

New Lenox Police Chief Louis Alessandrini and the New Lenox Police Department proudly announce the department's 14th annual "Cops Care" coat drive benefiting the Lincoln Way area community. In partnership with New Lenox School District 122, the coat drive allows for residents to donate gently used coats and utilizes a voucher system to allow anyone in need to receive a coat, free of charge. School District 122 students and families are encouraged to donate at their schools, while the general public are asked to donate at either the New Lenox Village Hall located at 1 Veterans Parkway or the New Lenox Police Department at 200 Veterans Parkway. The Cops Care coat drive begins October 1st and concludes Monday, October 31st. All coat collection points will have vouchers to be handed out to those in need, and vouchers will also be available at the New Lenox Township Office at 1100 S. Cedar Rd. Vouchers can be redeemed at Morning Star Treasure Chest, 2571 East Lincoln Highway, New Lenox IL. They will provide a coat, free of charge, for anyone who presents them with a voucher. Vouchers will be available for the duration of the coat drive.

## Halloween at Spencer Trail

**We will celebrate Halloween on October 30th! Teachers will plan their own classroom celebrations. Have your student come dressed in their costume for the day. Please don't send weapons or accessories to school. We don't want anything to get lost.**



## Preschool Screenings

New Lenox School District will be screening children from ages three to five in the areas of motor, cognitive, and speech/language development. Early childhood educators will present "game like" activities to your child which assess various development skills. All preschoolers who reside in our district are eligible to attend free of charge. This is a preschool screening, **not** a kindergarten readiness screening. This year the screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Elementary and Early Childhood Center.

### 2023-2024 Screening Dates

November 17th

March 8th

May 10th

**Call Cherry Hill School at 815-462-7831 to schedule an appointment.**



## **Calling Your Student OFF of School**

If your child will be absent from school, please call 815-462-7007.

Leave your child's name, teacher, session, and the reason for the absence.

This is a 24 hour line, so you can call anytime. If your child is NOT in school and we have not received a call within

35 minutes after the start of the student's session, one of our secretaries will call you to verify his/her absence.

To ensure the safety of our students, if we cannot make contact with the

parent/guardian, we will call the New Lenox Police Department to perform a non-emergency wellness check at your residence.

## **Transportation Department**

If you have an absence, or any questions or concerns regarding bus transportation, please contact the Transportation Department at 815-717-3100.

This includes late buses or buses that missed your stop.



## **Virtual Backpack**

New Lenox School District is proud to support the "Going Green" initiative with our virtual backpack. Information regarding activities, special events, and registrations available for school aged children from outside organizations will be posted. Go to [www.nlsd122.org](http://www.nlsd122.org) and click on the Parent/Student tab at the top and scroll down to the virtual backpack.



## **Sign Out Procedure**

When coming to pick up your student during the school day, please bring your photo ID. You will be buzzed into the office where you will sign out your student on the office IPAD.

# Specialists' Spotlight



## Library News from Mrs Ozbolt

Hello from the library! I am happy to be seeing your child's class each week. The students are working hard on whole body listening, following directions and learning our library routines. As the kindergarteners continue to bring books home:

### **PLEASE REMEMBER THESE "BOOK CARE" RULES:**

- 1. Please do not leave your book outside.**
- 2. Remember to not eat and drink while reading your books.**
- 3. Clean fingers are appreciated!**
- 4. Please return your library book when you are finished reading it. You do not need to wait until your next library visit. There is a library cart in the hallway of every neighborhood. When it is not library day, students can return their books to that cart. Thanks so much for returning library books on time!**

We always start our library time with a read aloud followed by an activity or lesson and then end with check out time. We have been working on lots of library skills and new library terms. We are learning book care and different parts of a book. We even built a pretend book together in class! I love getting to see the students explore all the different types of books we have available and helping them choose the one they will check out that week. We thank you for the huge role you play in fostering a love of reading in your child. Happy Reading!

## Art & Music News from Mrs. Archey

The Kindergarten students have been having so much fun in art and music this first month of school. Your kindergartners have learned so much in such a little amount of time! We learned about one of the principles of art: line. They did a fantastic job of practicing how to make different lines. This year each neighborhood has different projects that cover the same skills. The red neighborhood is making line paint brushes, the green neighborhood is making line rugs and the yellow neighborhood is making line monsters. They are turning into great artists! We have talked about different artists and read some great art stories, like *The Dot*, by Peter H. Reynolds.

In Music we are learning about how to keep a rhythm. The kindergarteners love practicing with our percussion instruments we have here at Spencer Trail. Our students have been doing a great job of whole body listening and following directions. I hope they are singing for you at home sharing the great songs we've learned. They are great musicians!

In October, we will be continuing in our learning and practicing rhythm. In Art, we will be learning how to paint and mix our colors.

**Any questions, let me know!**

**Samantha Schultz-Archey**

[sschultz@nlsd122.org](mailto:sschultz@nlsd122.org)

**Have a Fabulous Fall!**



# Specialists' Spotlight

## P.E. News from Mr Lundborg (Mr L)

Since the beginning of the school year, I have been teaching your child equipment names and obstacle courses. As the school year continues, over the next few weeks, I will be teaching your child the above mentioned, as well as, different locomotor movements like hopping, jumping and soccer.

Please remember to dress your child in proper clothing and shoes. (When selecting your child's gym shoes, please stay away from black soled shoes as they tend to mark up the gym floor.)



Thank you!

## Visual Information from the Occupational Therapist

Vision information related to school functioning:

**Visual acuity.** A person's ability to see clearly both close up and at a distance. When there is a deficit in acuity a child may struggle with: tasks up close, such as reading, coloring, printing, and/or cutting or tasks at a distance, such as copying from the board.

**Focusing.** A person's ability to change focus quickly between tasks. When there is a deficit in focusing a child may struggle with shifting visually between the board and their work.

**Visual efficiency/Oculomotor skills.** A person's ability to coordinate movement of their eyes together.

The ability to use both eyes as a 'team', is what allows our brain to fuse the two separate pictures coming in from each eye into a single image with depth perception. This skill is called binocularity. When the eyes do not 'team' a child may see double or they may struggle to visually track across midline. When there is a deficit in oculomotor skills a child may struggle with: aligning scissors to a page or line, following a line when cutting, using lines while printing, tracking a line of print when reading, catching a ball, and navigating changes in surfaces.

Some research shows that up to 75% of children who struggle with reading have deficits in oculomotor skills.

Other signs that there may be a visual difficulty includes: rubbing eyes, looking at things from the side, tilting head while doing close work, avoiding fine motor tasks, and/or saying things are hard to see.

Many vision exams only evaluate visual acuity. If you see your child struggling with any of the above skills it may be best to share that information with your eye doctor to see if they would evaluate oculomotor skills.



# Red Ribbon Week (10/23-10/27)

Spencer Trail students will be participating in **Red Ribbon Week** (Healthy Choices Week), which is the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup>. During this week, we encourage our students to make positive choices for themselves and to participate in a variety of activities that will promote healthy choices. One of those activities includes daily dress up days! Each day there will be a theme that focuses on healthy choices. We hope your children have fun and participate this week!



## October 23rd- Mellow Monday!

Relax and wear your pajamas!



Fast Facts: Kids 5-12 years old need 9-12 hours of sleep

## October 24th- Be a Hero: Have the Power to Say NO to Unhealthy Choices!



Dress to channel your inner superhero! Wear your favorite superhero shirt!



## October 25th- Team Up Against Unhealthy Choices!

Dress to represent your favorite sports team!



## October 26th- Throwback Thursday!

Dress in clothes from another decade to show that you will make healthy choices over time!



## October 27th- Spencer Trail Wildcats Make PAWsitive Choices!

Wear yellow or your Spencer Trail spirit wear!





# Spencer Trail Picture Day



Spencer Trail's Picture Day will be held on **October 12, 2023.**

Parents: All orders will be completed online. There is nothing your student needs to bring in that day except for a SMILE.

**VIEW & ORDER PHOTOS FROM  
PICTURE DAY!**

You'll receive an email when your images are ready to view online. Or, you can search for your gallery at [vipis.com](http://vipis.com) shortly after photos are taken.

If you need further assistance, contact us at [support@vipis.com](mailto:support@vipis.com)

 **vip**  
visual image photography

## How to Order School Portraits:

Picture proofs should be available within two weeks of picture day. All proofs and ordering of pictures will be completed through PowerSchool.

- \*Parents will log on to PowerSchool:

- \*Select your student

- \*Click the 'Student Photo' option on the left-hand navigation menu

- \*This will lead you to VIP's individual website photo proof page for the student

- \*You can also visit [www.vipis.com](http://www.vipis.com) and search by student name.

You'll be able to select which photo you want used in the memory book (head-and-shoulders crop only) Please take a moment to do this or VIP will pick the best one for you. You can then place an order. All orders will be delivered to the home address you enter at checkout.

- **Questions** regarding ordering or photo options can be emailed to [support@vipis.com](mailto:support@vipis.com) or through calling VIP at 262-375-9633. The VIP website is [www.vipis.com](http://www.vipis.com).
- Any other questions can be directed to the Spencer Trail office or through emailing Jenny Christophersen ([jchristophersen@nlsd122.org](mailto:jchristophersen@nlsd122.org)).

**Absent on picture day? No Worries! Retake Day is NOVEMBER 9th!**

# NEW LENOX SCHOOL DISTRICT 122 | 2023-2024 CALENDAR

**Gray**=School Day  
**Red**= Holiday (No School)  
**Blue**=Teacher Institute (No School)  
**Green**=Teacher SIP-School Improvement Day (1/2 Day of School)  
**Orange**= PT Conferences (No School)  
**Purple**=Emergency Days  
**Yellow**=New Teacher Orientation  
**Bold** = Pay Day

JANUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		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		

08 Institute Day: No School  
 09 Classes Resume  
 15 Holiday: No School

AUGUST '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		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		

17 New Teacher Orientation  
 Find Your Way Day (1-8)  
 18 New Teacher Orientation  
 21 Institute Day: No School  
 22 Institute Day: No School  
 23 1<sup>st</sup> Full Day (1-8)  
 Cherry Hill/K Orientation  
 24 1<sup>st</sup> Day Cherry Hill/K

FEBRUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				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		

16 SIP Day (1/2 Day)  
 19 Holiday: No School

SEPTEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					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

4 Holiday: No School  
 22 SIP Day (1/2 Day)

MARCH '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					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						

25 Spring Break Begins

OCTOBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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				

9 Holiday: No School  
 31 SIP Day (1/2 Day)

APRIL '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	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				

2 Classes Resume  
 19 Institute: No School

NOVEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			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		

17 SIP Day (1/2 Day)  
 20 P/T Conf: No School  
 21 P/T Conf: No School  
 22-24 Thanksgiving Break

MAY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			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	

10 SIP Day (1/2 Day)  
 27 Holiday: No School  
 30 Last Day of School EC/PB/K  
 31 SIP Day (1/2 Day)  
 (Last day 1-8)

DECEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					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						

21 SIP Day (1/2 Day)  
 22 Winter Break Begins

JUNE '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						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						

Emergency Days (if needed)  
 19 Holiday

	TRI 1	TRI 2	TRI 3
Start	8-23	11-13	2-26
Mid T	9-29	1-12	4-12
End	11-10	2-23	5-31
Report Cards	11-17	3-1	5-31





# Join us in our annual Cops Care Coat Drive!

October 1st-31st

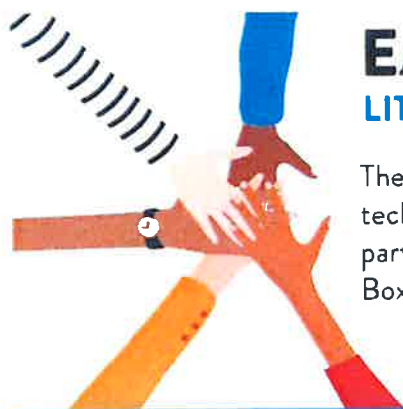
Coat donations can be dropped off at:

- New Lenox Schools
- New Lenox Police Department
- New Lenox Village Hall

Coat Vouchers are available at:

- New Lenox Schools
- New Lenox Police Department
- New Lenox Village Hall
- New Lenox Township





# EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

LITTLE BY LITTLE WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

The Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

LOOK  
FOR THE  
LABEL:



## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



### BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



### SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



### EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated online.

## SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES ONLINE?

You can still earn Box Tops for your school with your e-receipt!

See how at [BTFE.com/emailgroceryreceipts](https://www.btfef.com/emailgroceryreceipts)



## BOX TOPS CLIPS

You may occasionally find an old Box Tops clip on packages in stores. **You can still clip them and send them to school**, as long as each clip has a valid expiration date.

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT  
THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfef.com)

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS  
APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:







# SNAPSHOT OF NEW LENOX 122 PTO SEPTEMBER 2023



CLICK HERE!



STAY CONNECTED WITH US



## CURRENT EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR FUNDRAISER  
SALES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

DINE AND DONATE @ DUNKIN DONUTS  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023  
5:00 AM - 10:00 PM

SEPTEMBER PTO MEETING @ TYLER LRC  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023  
9:30 AM  
(Children Welcome!)

CHARLESTON WRAP FUNDRAISER  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 -  
OCTOBER 8, 2023

## COMING SOON

DINE AND DONATE @ CHIPOTLE  
OCTOBER 3, 2023  
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

HEARTWOOD CRAFTS FUNDRAISER  
OCTOBER 9 - 22, 2023

OCTOBER PTO MEETING @ RIDGE LRC  
OCTOBER 19, 2023  
7:30 PM  
(Children Welcome!)

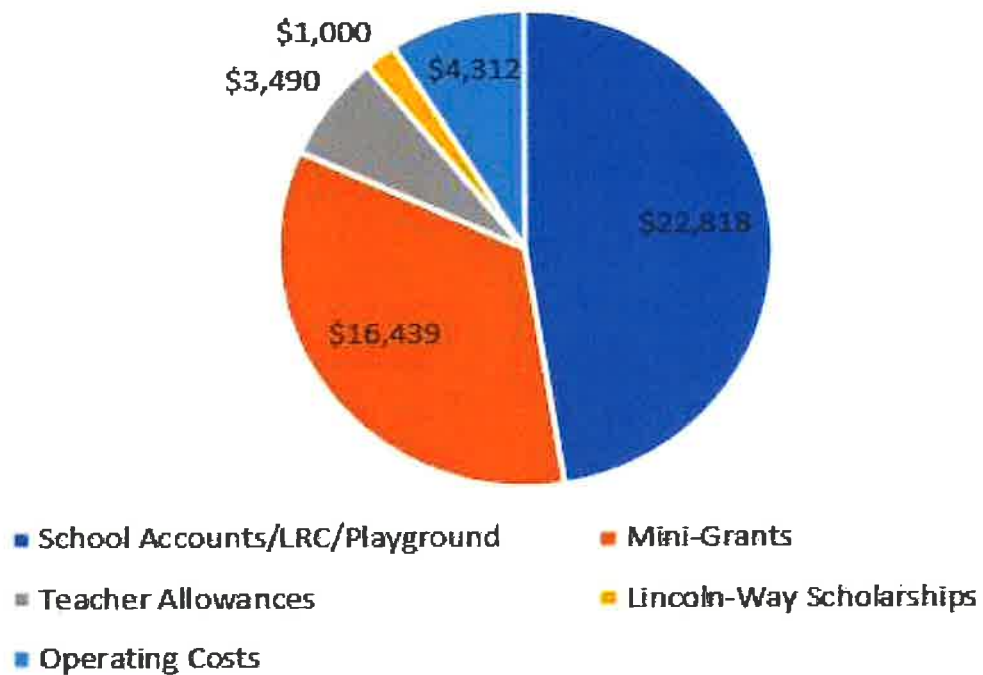
BOWLING WITH MY BUDDY  
NOVEMBER 4, 2023  
TWO SESSIONS: 12 PM-2 PM, 2:30 PM-4:30 PM

## TREASURY CHRONICLES

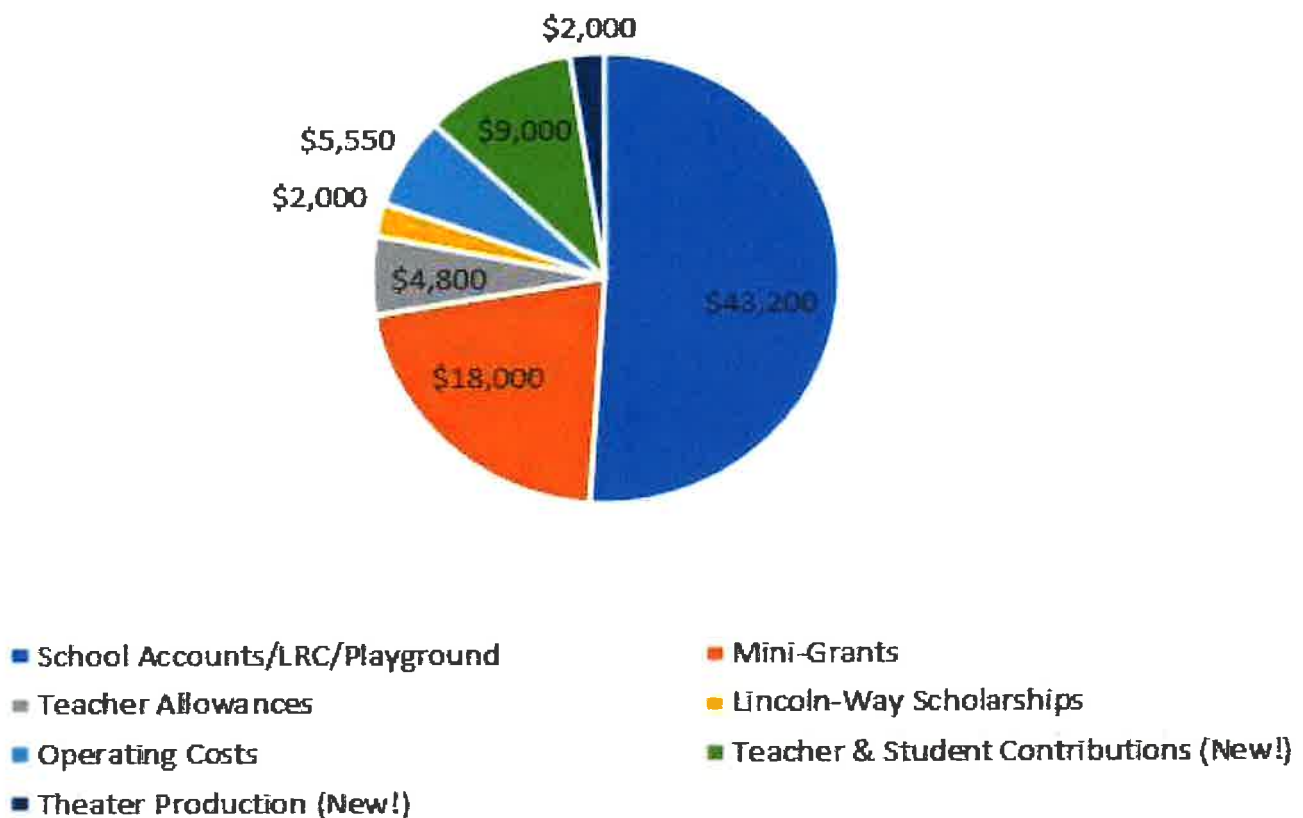
With the help and generosity of our district's families, the New Lenox PTO had an extremely successful fundraising year for the 2022-2023 school year. All of the money we raised has been added into our budget for the 2023-2024 year to benefit our teachers and schools. This year we are excited to announce that we will now be providing theater production stipends for our middle schools and junior highs and we have increased contributions for school accounts, teacher reimbursements, mini-grants, and Lincoln-Way scholarships for our former District 122 students. We are looking forward to another successful year so that we can continue to help fund materials to enhance our children's educational experiences. Thank you so much for your support!

[WWW.NEWLENOXPTO.ORG](http://WWW.NEWLENOXPTO.ORG)

## 2022-23 PTO Spend by Category



## 2023-24 PTO Budget by Category





# New Lenox School District 122 PTO



Our Organization ID:

**19927**

## REGISTER. SHARE. SHOP. SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER

Check-off your holiday gift list today and help our important cause.

From holiday to hostess to corporate gifts and more,  
our online store has something for every occasion – even if it's just for you!



### #1 REGISTER

Register participant at  
[www.registercw.com](http://www.registercw.com)  
to access our handy  
invitation tools in the  
Participant Portal.  
Very important!

### #2 SHARE

Invite friends and family  
to support! SHARE a link  
to the sale using the **TEXT**  
& **EMAIL** invitation tools.  
Don't forget to share on  
**SOCIAL MEDIA**, too!

### #3 SHOP

Go online to **SHOP** and  
help us reach our **GOAL**  
today! With over 2,500  
gift ideas there is  
something for everyone,  
including you!

