



## **Longwood Elementary School - Indian Prairie School District 204**

Welcome to Longwood Elementary School! We hope you will find our school a warm and engaging place to be.

We believe our students will be best prepared to achieve their individual potential for excellence if they are well equipped to engage in relevant and rigorous learning, live and work productively with others, and value and respect themselves and others.

At Longwood, we all know that learning must be at the center of everything we do. The activities we choose for students are learning focused and designed to ensure that students meet the Common Core Standards. In order to best meet the needs of our diverse students, the Longwood learning community operates using a student- centered mindset.

### **Mantra**

Be a part of our Pride!

### **Mission Statement**

At Longwood Elementary school, we use our experience and expertise in engaging families and the community to provide a safe and challenging learning environment to foster students' academic, social-emotional and physical growth and well-being.

### **Vision Statement**

Longwood Elementary School envisions a diverse, student-centered learning community that will prepare students, using relevant and inclusive learning activities, to become life-long learners and productive citizens in an ever-changing society. We expect all stakeholders to accept the responsibility of providing an atmosphere where every child can be successful.

### **School Wide Title I Status**

Longwood is a schoolwide Title I building. We receive additional federal funds to support our educational programs. Title I Schools provide extensive professional development for teachers and a variety of parent and family programs. Longwood Elementary School, as a Title I Schoolwide Program, offers additional services to ALL students. You can learn more about our Title I program on our school website, under the Title I tab.

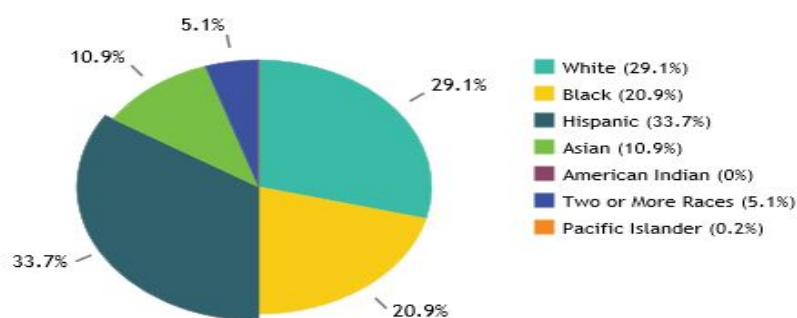
### **Fun Facts about Longwood**

- ❖ Longwood opened in 1967
- ❖ The architectural design of our school is unique among the elementaries in the 204 school district

- ❖ Our mascot is the lion. Go Longwood Lions!

## What Distinguishes our School?

As of 2016, there are 400 students (approx) and more than 26 languages that are spoken at our school. At Longwood Elementary, we believe that individual and cultural diversity enriches life and that an appreciation of diversity of ideas and culture contributes to a strong society.



<http://www.illinoisreportcard.com/School.aspx?source=StudentCharacteristics&source2=StudentDemographics&Schoolid=190222040262002>

## Longwood Encourages New Families to join the PTA

A parent-teacher association (PTA) is an organization composed of parents, teachers and staff that helps facilitate parental participation in the school. Longwood Elementary School believes in the importance of engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.. The key to the Longwood Elementary School's success is the active involvement of all members of the school community. The interaction of students, teachers and families creates an energetic and invigorating environment! For this reason, Longwood invites new families to join the PTA.

The number one reason to join the PTA is to directly benefit your child. Research shows that children whose parents are involved in their school have better grades and fewer disciplinary problems. In doing so, you also help your school. There are many more PTA advantages (National PTA Organization) outlined below:

- ❖ **Get Connected.** There is no better way to know what is happening in your school.
- ❖ **Tap into a Network.** PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, building rapport and discussing issues that are on your mind. You can share ideas, concerns, and experiences.
- ❖ **Watch Yourself Grow.** By volunteering with your PTA, you put your skills and hobbies to use for a noble cause—your child and all children in the community. Let your gifts and talents shine. Each of us has good ideas and unique abilities, so share yours!
- ❖ **Speak Up.** PTA can be a way for you to more effectively suggest change at your child's school. Only members are eligible to vote on PTA programs and business decisions – let your voice be heard!
- ❖ **Witness Improvement.** By getting involved at your child's school, you will be part of the solution, helping make positive changes.

- ❖ Be a Role Model. By becoming a PTA member, you will be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education.
- ❖ Information: PTA members receive a free Longwood Student Directory (distributed in fall) - a great way to get to know other parents, send birthday invitations, and arrange play dates. You will also receive regular email news about PTA activities, community events, and PTA parenting resources.

For more information regarding the Longwood PTA, please contact our Longwood PTA Co-Presidents: Ms. Charmagne Kaushal and/or Ms. Kathi Wieringa ( [LongwoodPTACoPresident@gmail.com](mailto:LongwoodPTACoPresident@gmail.com))

## English Language Learning Program

Longwood Elementary Schools values the linguistic and cultural diversity that our students bring to our school. In accordance to the District 204 ELL Program, Longwood offers:

English as a Second Language (ESL): The goals of the ESL program are: 1) To develop English skills while learning grade appropriate academic content, 2) To develop academic English language proficiency to assist students in meeting Illinois Learning Standards as well as the Illinois English Language Proficiency Standards. 3) ESL instruction focuses on the development of both social and academic language in all four language domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing in English.

Bilingual Education: At Longwood we currently have a Transitional Bilingual Program (TBE) for qualifying Spanish speaking students.

The goals of the Transitional Bilingual Program are: 1) To develop English skills while learning grade appropriate academic content, 2) To develop academic English language proficiency to assist students in meeting Illinois Learning Standards as well as Illinois English Language Proficiency Standards and 3) to promote bilingualism and biliteracy. The students in the Bilingual Program receive ESL instruction as well as native literacy instruction and/or native language support.

For more information regarding the ELL Program contact our ESL Teacher Mrs. Kristen Fitch (Phone: 630-428-6763; e-mail: [kristen\\_fitch@ipsd.org](mailto:kristen_fitch@ipsd.org)) and our Bilingual Teacher Mrs. Luz Padilla (Phone: 630-428-7233; e-mail: [luz\\_padilla@ipsd.org](mailto:luz_padilla@ipsd.org))

## Project Arrow Program (PA) and Accelerated Math Program

These two programs address the needs of those students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement as well as show potential beyond that of their age level peers. At the elementary level, both programs are offered to students in third grade through fifth grade. These programs allow interaction with peers of similar ability and include a variety of services ranging from classroom enrichment to differentiated and/or accelerated curriculum for higher grade levels. In order to be part of these programs, the school considers multiple academic measures as well as teacher recommendation.

Project Arrow is the 204 School District gifted program offered to students who consistently excel or show the potential to consistently excel in general intellectual ability and/or specific academic aptitude or talent. The identification process for the Project Arrow program occurs on an annual basis and the program is for students in grades 3-5.

For more information regarding the PA Program please contact Mrs. Linda Boddy (630-428-6782; e-mail: [linda\\_boddy@ipsd.org](mailto:linda_boddy@ipsd.org)).

Accelerated Math is a separate program from Project Arrow. A student in the Accelerated Math Program may or may not be part of Project Arrow depending on the academic needs of the student. The Program is designed to begin in 3rd grade and to continue through high school. This program is for students who demonstrate a strong knowledge in mathematical problem solving and math computation. Usually, students learn math that is accelerated one grade level. The identification process occurs at the end of second grade and students can be tested annually, if needed.

For more information please visit : <http://ipsdweb.ipsd.org/uploads/AT/OpportunitiesForAcademicallyTalentedStudents.pdf>

## **Other School Activities**

Different activities offered by the school are an important and vibrant part of our educational mission for students. Longwood seeks to develop the whole child and provides opportunities for students to explore hobbies and interests beyond the school curriculum.

Clubs and activities offer opportunities for students to develop confidence and self-esteem, and encourage interaction with students other than their classmates. These activities vary from year to year and may not be offered to all school grades. Please contact the office for additional information.

Intramural and other activities are offered to intermediate Longwood students. The specific intramurals offered vary from year to year. Stay tuned for the activities that will be occurring during the school year.

### Clubs:

- ✓ Safety Patrol
- ✓ Student Council
- ✓ Robotics
- ✓ Running Club
- ✓ Club Invention
- ✓ Volleyball
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Club Creation
- ✓ Yoga Club

### Other Activities:

- ✓ Book Fairs
- ✓ Fine Arts Festival
- ✓ Spirit Days and Assemblies
- ✓ Field Day
- ✓ Curriculum Parties by Grade Level
- ✓ New Family Orientation
- ✓ 2nd Grade Concert
- ✓ 4th and 5th Grade Concert
- ✓ Family Math Night
- ✓ Family Science Night
- ✓ Red Ribbon Week
- ✓ Volunteer Appreciation
- ✓ One Book One School
- ✓ College Week

For additional information:

School Website Link : <http://longwood.ipisd.org/>

Faculty and Staff Link : <http://longwood.ipisd.org/Staff.aspx>

Indian Prairie School District 204 Link <http://www.ipisd.org/>

Longwood - Parent and Student Handbook: <http://longwood.ipisd.org/uploads/about/LongwoodHandbook1617.pdf>

## LONGWOOD GLOSSARY

**Arrival-** Students should between 8:50 AM- 9:00 AM on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. On Wednesdays they should arrive between 9:00 AM- 9:10 AM. If a student is having breakfast at school, they need to arrive at 8:50 AM sharp and go to the cafeteria (9:00 AM on Wednesdays).

**Art Smock** - Please send an art smock in a ziploc bag with your child's name on it and it will stay in your child's locker. It can be an oversized t-shirt or old t-shirt.

**Backpack Mail** - Flyers from the school, PTA and other important information your child brings home will in their take home folders for your review. Please check these every night. Items coming directly from the office will be on purple paper- so you know they are very important!

**Common Core Curriculum** - This is an educational initiative in the United States that dictates what K-12 students should know in English language arts and mathematics at the end of each grade. The standards were created to ensure that all students graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in college, career, and life, regardless of where they live.

### **Dismissal-**

- ☞ Bus riders, Car riders and day care riders are dismissed to locations at 3:30 PM
- ☞ Walkers are dismissed at 3:35 PM

**Google Sites** – Many teachers have Google sites where they communicate with parents about what is occurring in their classroom. You can find this site by going to the Longwood Home Page, clicking on Faculty and Staff and clicking on the hyperlink for your child's teacher or teachers.

**Early dismissal** - Parents must notify the office of any daily changes (via note or phone call) PRIOR to 3:00 pm. No students will be dismissed early between 3:00pm and 3:35pm. If we do not hear from a parent, we will not accept a child's word for a change in routine.

**Field Day** - Dress your child in comfortable and weather appropriate clothing, including shoes. Have your child bring a water bottle they can refill during the school day. This will be at the end of the school year!

**Genius Hour-** Genius Hour is built into the schedule for grades 1-5, three days a week. It is a time for students to practice reading, writing, researching and synthesizing skills while exploring independent interests and projects.

**Gym shoes** - Your child needs to bring a pair of gym shoes on the days he/she has PE. They can leave an extra pair in their lockers or just wear them to school.

**Hot lunch** -Under the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 and the National School Lunch Program, the required components of a "meal" include fluid milk, meat/meat alternate, two different fruits and/or vegetables, and breads/grains. On behalf of the District, Aramark serves all meals based on the USDA Healthier Choice Guidelines. Cost of the Lunch/Breakfast meal is \$2.55.

**Take Home Folder** - A folder your child uses every day to take important paperwork home to share with you. You can also use this folder to send any notes or other paperwork back to school to be shared with the teacher.

**Late Start Wednesdays** - Every Wednesday, school starts at 9:15am (10 minutes later than normal). This provides additional training time for our teachers.

**Lost and Found** - There is an area for lost and found items, located outside the staff bathrooms.. Make sure you label your child's coats, snow pants, etc.

**Maker Space**- This is an area in our library where students can create! It is called the Longwood Creation Station. Students can go with their class or in small groups. Here, students can build, code, design and more.

**MPR** - Multi-purpose room, where the students eat lunch.

**Parent-Student Handbook**- Please visit the website and click on the Parent-Student Handbook tab on the left side. This gives a lot of important information about Longwood policies and procedures.

**School Drop Off** – M-T-TH-F doors open at 8:50 AM every day. Every Wednesday doors open at 9:00. If your child arrives earlier, they will have to wait outside.

**Sick Days** - Make sure to call the attendance hotline Phone: 630.428.6789 Extension 3 and leave a message with your kid's name, classroom information and a short explanation of his/her sickness.

**Specials** – Longwood specials include Art, Music, and PE (Physical Education). Students have opportunities to attend the LMC and our Maker Space, as well.

**Spirit Assembly**- Here at Longwood, we recognize "Longwood Leaders" for character traits each month at an assembly. If your child is being recognized, you will be invited by their class teacher.

**Tardiness** – Students are expected to be in class, ready to learn, at 9:05 AM (9:15 AM on Wednesdays), or they are considered tardy. They have to go to the main office (or right outside), sign in, specify if they would need or not hot lunch that day and get a Tardy Pass to give to their teachers. Students are on time if they are sitting in their desks when the starting bell of the day rings and tardy if they are not in their assigned seats.