# THE 2022/2023 LIN HOWE WELCOME PACKET



## WELCOME BACK FAMILIES!

We want to extend our warmest welcome as the school year begins and we return to school. Whether you're a new family coming to Lin Howe for the first time or your child is returning to campus, we are looking forward to welcoming you!

We hope this packet helps you navigate your child's time here at Lin Howe. In the following pages, you'll find information about our PTA and Boosters organizations, safety on campus and a helpful glossary of our Lin Howe ABC's to explain the ins and outs of the daily Sea Dragon experience.

We are always looking for parent volunteers to enhance and support life at Lin Howe. Whether you want to volunteer a lot or a little, we will help find the spot that's right for you. We have many opportunities to volunteer through PTA and Boosters - we need your support to make our school a place that is welcoming to all and full of community building opportunities.

Anyone hoping to volunteer on campus in any capacity must be a cleared volunteer. Please see the Safety On Campus page for details on how to become a cleared volunteer.

We want all families to be informed throughout the school year in order to stay connected to what is happening at Lin Howe. You can stay up to date in many ways:

- Mr. Chabola's weekly email updates the Sea Dragon Diaries
- Attending monthly PTA meetings and/or bi-monthly Booster meetings
- Joining the 'Linwood E. Howe PTA & Boosters' page on Facebook (closed Facebook page for Lin Howe families)
- · Checking out our school webpages:
  - linhowe.ccusd.org
  - $\circ$  linhoweboosters.com
  - linhowepta.com

Linwood Howe is outstanding because of all of our combined efforts. We would love to have you involved in any way you are able. Welcome to Lin Howe!

Sincerely,Casey ChabolaEmily SachettiAngela IzuelPrincipalPresident, BoostersPresident, PTAcaseychabola@ccusd.orgemilysacchetti@gmail.comangela\_izuel@hotmail.com

# LIN HOWE WORKING TOGETHER

Linwood E. Howe is so fortunate to have two separate parent volunteer run organizations to support our school - Lin Howe Boosters and Lin Howe PTA.

Working hand-in-hand, we fund and run numerous programs and activities that enrich every student's academic and social experience. Below is an outline of what each group is responsible for and the distinct contributions each make to Linwood E. Howe.

## The Linwood E. Howe Boosters, Inc. is a nonprofit organization operated by parents of Linwood Howe students.



The mission of the Linwood E. Howe Booster Club is to positively enhance the education of the whole child, cultivate a cohesive community, and develop a well-rounded and socialized student body. We accomplish this goal through parent participation and volunteerism, fundraising and targeted programs, and facilitation of local and foundational support.

### The Lin Howe Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a unit of the California and National PTA and is made up of parent volunteers and school staff.



Our PTA funds Lin Howe's class field trips, assemblies, classroom supplies, classroom libraries, the Lin Howe school library, school beautification, and physical education equipment, among other programs as well as district wide outreach programs (backpacks program and community school fund for college scholarships). The PTA also plans, funds and runs numerous social and educational events including Family Fun Nights, book fairs, Lin Howe's Got Talent, programs supporting equity, yearbook and the Dragon Wagon walking school bus program. We also have three subcommittees: the Committee for Equity, the Special Education PTA Committee, and the Green Team.

Joining PTA costs only \$6 per member and anyone in your family can join - parents, students, grandparents, etc. We encourage you to "round up" to \$10 to cover your membership and the various programs our PTA supports. You can join PTA during our Membership Drive, or join easily today on our website: linhowepta.com

## COMMUNITY REWARDS

By designating Lin Howe as your preferred charity, you can turn purchases at Amazon and Farm Fresh to You into direct donations to Lin Howe. Please encourage your extended family and friends to participate too!



Amazon contributes .05% of your sale to Lin Howe. Prices on smile.amazon.com are identical to amazon.com.

To sign up for Amazon rewards:

- Go to smile.amazon.com and enter your Amazon login information. You cannot use the mobile app.
- In the "or pick your own charitable organization" field type in Linwood E. Howe (PTA or Boosters the money goes to the same place)
- Click "select."

When you shop, make sure you sign into smile.amazon.com., You will have access to your shopping cart and all the same inventory and prices on smile.amazon.com. Please note that purchases completed on Amazon.com or through the Amazon app on your mobile phone do not support donations to Linwood E. Howe.



Farm Fresh to You is a food subscription service for organic, responsibly-grown California fruits, vegetables and other grocery items delivered to your home or office on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis. Customers can choose the size of the delivery and each item that goes in the box. Lin Howe receives 10% of proceeds! This is a beyond-generous deal from our California family farmers.

To sign up for Farm Fresh To You rewards:

- use the promo code "seadragons"
- if you already receive Farm Fresh to You, call their customer service and the promo code can be added to your account.

To subscribe and learn more, visit Farm Fresh to You online at <u>https://www.farmfreshtoyou.com</u>.

## SAFETY ON CAMPUS

Lin Howe strives to create a place where everyone is safe, welcome and supported. It's our belief that every student should feel emotionally and physically safe at school, which takes every community member's support.

#### **COVID POLICIES**

Lin Howe is staying up to date with all current COVID protocols and will communicate new and relevant information directly to families. Since this information changes often, please refer to emails from Mr. Chabola, the district and School Board for all accurate information.

#### **ON CAMPUS SAFETY**

Cafeteria, hallway and playground expectations are explained to students at the beginning of the year and reviewed with students periodically. All rules and expectations are embedded in the Six Pillars of Character: Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Citizenship, Trustworthiness, and Fairness. In addition to reinforcing the character traits at home, parents can remind students to keep their hands, feet and objects to themselves, no play fighting, and to treat others as you would want to be treated.

With over 600 students on campus, we know there will occasionally be hurt feelings and conflicts. When this occurs, students are encouraged to use "I messages" and utilize strategies that are taught at the beginning of the year for managing conflict. When appropriate, students are also encouraged to tell the nearest adult, see the school counselor, or notify the principal.

#### **ON CAMPUS VISITORS**

Anyone hoping to volunteer on campus in any capacity must be a cleared volunteer (please confirm current policy before you volunteer). To become a cleared volunteer, you must submit an application through CCUSD which includes passing a TB screening and getting fingerprinted. Visitors must present a photo ID which is scanned and checked against a Megan's Law database. More information, including the volunteer application, can be found <u>here</u>.

Parents and students are encouraged to greet each other outside of the entrance gates, however parents are not allowed inside the gates to the school area at this time.

#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Lin Howe has detailed plans for fire, earthquakes, lockdowns and shelter in place emergencies and students and staff regularly participate in drills for each scenario. When practicing for lockdowns, your child's teacher will explain it in an age-appropriate way to ensure students understand the seriousness without creating anxiety or fear.

Finally, and most importantly, if you see something, say something. Campus safety takes everyone being vigilant.

## LIN HOWE FROM A TO Z

This is a simple reference guide that quickly describes what each of our Lin Howe events and programs are. We hope it's helpful as you navigate life at Lin Howe!

#### After School Cornucopia

Cornucopia is Lin Howe's after-school enrichment classes. These classes are provided by a third party and are open to all students (though some classes are for specific grade levels). Information about classes, cost, and signing up is sent home with each student and can also be found <u>here.</u>

#### Art Classes

Art is very important to the Lin Howe community. We are proud to offer an art lesson to every classroom nearly every week.

#### Back-to-School Night

This parent only event takes place during the second week of school. It's an important night where parents can learn more about their child's classroom experience and hear from their teacher about the coming year.

#### **Beautification Day**

Held two times throughout the school year and organized by the Green Team, Beautification Day is when Lin Howe families come together on a Saturday or Sunday to help keep our school looking great. There's always plenty to do including tasks like planting, painting, and picking up garbage. It's a fun way to get involved and care for our campus.

#### Book Fair

Lin Howe PTA hosts two Book Fairs during the school year. Load up your kids' brains with amazing books - all proceeds go directly back to buying books for our school library! Typically, the Book Fair takes over the whole library and each class visits the Fair, but this year it might take place virtually. Teachers also create wish lists for their classroom libraries.

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#### Boosters

The mission of the Linwood E. Howe Booster Club is to positively enhance the education of the whole child, cultivate a cohesive community, and develop a well-rounded and socialized student body. We accomplish this goal through parent participation and volunteerism, fundraising and targeted programs, and facilitation of local and foundational support. The Boosters fund enrichment programs and materials.

The <u>Boosters</u> meet bi-monthly at various off-campus locations and/or virtually. The meetings are open to all Lin Howe adults who would like to learn about Boosters and get involved with fundraising or the programs they sponsor. Join the Booster email list to be notified of meeting information by emailing info@linhoweboosters.com.

#### CCUSD

CCUSD stands for Culver City Unified School District.

#### **Character Counts/Character Traits**

Classroom guidance lessons are presented to each class focusing on the character trait of the month. The six pillars of character are Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.

#### **Committee for Equity**

The LinHowe PTA Committee for Equity aspires to be a coalition of parents, teachers, and administrators working toward ensuring equity at Lin Howe for all students and families. We believe our school community is unique and we should work toward making sure EVERY child has the opportunity to learn and grow in our school.

#### **Costume Parade**

Coinciding with Halloween, Lin Howe typically has a costume parade where students dress up and parade around the perimeter of school. An alternate activity is provided for students who do not wish to participate in the parade.

#### The Dragon Wagon

This is Lin Howe's walking school bus which kicks off in October. Students and parent volunteers meet Friday mornings from two locations to walk to school together. Join us at Carlson Park at 8:10 am or Ince/Carson at 8:20 am, or join in along the way. Students are given a tag to be scanned and an opportunity to win a prize.

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#### Facebook

The Lin Howe Facebook page is a PTA & Boosters run page. It's a great way to keep up to date with school related issues and connect with other Lin Howe Families. Search for "Linwood E. Howe PTA & Boosters" and ask to join. Members must agree to comply with outlined rules in order to participate. A school-appointed monitor will accept you after a brief screening questionnaire.

#### Family Fun Nights

Lin Howe is more than a school, it's a community. Nowhere is this more apparent than at our PTA sponsored Family Fun Nights! All FFNs are free of charge and open to all Lin Howe families. Not only are Family Fun Nights great community builders, but they also take a community to make happen. We're always looking for help with planning or volunteering before, during or after the event, so don't forget to sign up for a volunteer shift!

#### Farm Fresh to You

Farm Fresh to You is an organic food delivery company that brings California-grown fruit and vegetables directly to your door. They've partnered with our school to donate 10% of all proceeds from purchases by Lin Howe supporters. Simply use promo code "seadragons" when signing up with farmfreshtoyou.com. Existing customers may also add the "seadragons" code to their subscription through the "Accounts" page. Contact Bronwyn Jamrok at <u>bsjamrok@me.com</u> if you need more information.

#### **Field Trips**

PTA is proud to fund at least one field trip for every grade level at Lin Howe. Students and teachers enjoy going off campus for a special experience, and a parent volunteer or two are often included.

#### **Green Ambassadors**

This is the student group that focuses on the 5 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Ride and Rethink! The Green Ambassadors attend meetings where they learn about ways to be sustainable and then share that information with their classmates.

#### Green Team

This is the parent run volunteer team that works to ensure Lin Howe is thinking and functioning in the most sustainable, earth friendly ways. The Green Team organizes two school Beautification Days throughout the year to help keep our school looking beautiful. It's a great way to get involved!

#### **Growing Great**

All Lin Howe Sea Dragons benefit from a series of nutrition education lessons from a trained instructor using a curriculum from <u>Growing Great</u>, a non-profit organization that promotes healthy food choices through hands-on education programs.

#### **Instrumental Music**

K-2 students experience instrumental music through the symphonic Jazz Orchestra (described later in this packet). Third graders work with recorders, while 4th and 5th graders can opt into instrumental music.

#### Intervention (Reading and Math)

Lin Howe has dedicated reading and math intervention specialists who support students in their grade level benchmarks.

#### Jump Rope for Heart

This event is typically organized by the physical education teachers and students are asked to get sponsorships to jump rope. The money raised is given to the American Heart Association to help fight heart disease.

#### **Kinder Celebration**

Kinder Celebration is the culmination of kindergarten, usually taking place a couple of days prior to the last day of school. It typically includes a short performance and a simple celebration.

#### Lin Howe's Got Talent

Dozens of Sea Dragons participate in Lin Howe's annual talent show, highlighting their singing, dancing, instrumental, comedic and other talents. Students attend auditions, dress rehearsal and perform during the evening show. Most performers start working on their acts over the winter break. It's a fun night for all!

#### Math Olympiads

A not-for-profit dedicated to stimulating enthusiasm, fostering creativity, and strengthening intuition in mathematical problem solving.

#### Office of Child Development (OCD)

OCD is short for the Office of Child Development. OCD is part of CCUSD and offers fee based and income eligible preschool programs, before and after care programs for TK-5, and summer camps for K-5.

#### **Open House**

Held in February, Open House offers an opportunity for parents to see what their child has been working on throughout the year. Students are excited and proud to show off their work and teachers are available to answer questions.

#### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Conference dates are in mid-December. This is a time to meet with your child's teacher to discuss progress, concerns, etc. These dates also coincide with early dismissal days at 1:45 pm.

#### ΡΤΑ

<u>PTA</u> stands for Parent-Teacher Association. The PTA's purpose is to promote the education, health and welfare of children in the home, school and community.

Membership Drive—We kick off the school year with our annual membership drive. It's \$6 to become an official PTA member, though many people "round up" to \$10 per membership so that even more funds can go back to our various programs. A membership can be purchased for all members of your family - parents, children, grandparents, etc. We strive for 100% participation as the funds raised go right back into helping our school. You can join anytime at linhowepta.com

*Monthly Meetings*—Typically held the second Thursday of each month from 6-7pm, the PTA monthly meeting is open to all Lin Howe adults who want to learn about what the PTA is working on and to get involved. Come join us!

#### Pali Camp

5<sup>th</sup> grade students may have the opportunity to attend Pail Camp through the Pali Institute for adventure, education and bonding experiences.

#### **Picture Day**

This is the day where student portraits and class photos are taken for the new school year. It usually occurs in mid September. There is also a make-up day for any student who was absent that day, enrolled late or a retake is needed. This usually occurs a month after the original picture day.

#### Promotion - 5th Grade

This is the culmination of the 5th grade year, typically taking place a couple of days prior to the last day of school. It typically includes a tribute and a simple celebration.

#### Reflections

Reflections is a nation-wide arts appreciation and recognition program for students, sponsored by the National PTA. To participate, Lin Howe students may submit an original piece of their own independent work, inspired by the annual theme, in any of the following six areas: Dance/Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Photography, Music Composition and Visual Arts (2D and 3D). Reflections kicks off in the fall, and entries are due in mid-October.

#### Science Fair

Participating students showcase their science project in the cafeteria before judges. All science projects remain on display for all Lin Howe families to view in the Spring. Encouraged for all grades but typically required for fifth graders.

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#### Special Education Committee

The Lin Howe PTA Special Education Committee is a parent-led group that works closely with school faculty and staff to ensure that children of all abilities are visible and supported in our school and community. We organize special assemblies, classroom readings, and other activities to increase understanding and empathy for students who are differently abled. There also is a Parent Resource book center that addresses an array of social, emotional and developmental issues for our children at the LinHowe library. For more information, contact co-chairs Gabby Zadra (gzadra@hotmail.com) or Sheila Iverson (shaydoss@gmail.com).

#### Spirit Wear

Spirit wear is our line of clothing that features multiple Lin Howe and Sea Dragon logo designs. There is a fantastic assortment for kids and adults including tees, sweatshirts and caps. Look for the Spirit Wear table at Lin Howe functions throughout the year and during Spirit Wear drives. Stay tuned for more information!

#### School Site Council (SSC)

The School Site Council is comprised of parents, teachers, school staff members and the principal. All members are elected by the group they represent and serve two year terms (with the exception of the principal). This group discusses the school site plan (including school-wide goals), the school safety plan, and some school spending.

School Calendars

- The Lin Howe website address is <a href="http://linhowe.ccusd.org">http://linhowe.ccusd.org</a> and the Lin Howe events calendar is on the bottom of the home page.
- The CCUSD website is <a href="https://www.ccusd.org">https://www.ccusd.org</a> and the CCUSD calendar is located under the "About Us" tab.

#### Symphonic Jazz Orchestra

Symphonic Jazz Orchestra is a K-3 music program. Professional musicians visit classrooms at Lin Howe to teach students about music and musical instruments.

#### **Targeted Parent Teacher Conferences**

Unlike regular Parent Teacher Conferences, where teachers meet with ALL students, these are teacher requested conferences. The teacher will let you know if they would like to schedule a conference time. Target Parent Conference Dates are in the Fall & Spring. These are also early dismissal days at 1:45 pm for all students.

#### Teacher Contact Information

A list of teachers (staff directory), with an option to email the teachers, is under the "About Us" tab on <u>http://linhowe.ccusd.org</u>.

#### Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Lin Howe celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week in May with a staff breakfast, luncheon and other special events throughout the week. Room Parents also organize specific gifts for teachers. It's a great way to show our appreciation for all they do!

#### Vegetable Garden

Lin Howe has an amazing vegetable garden, with a garden bed for each grade level. Parent volunteers help students plant the garden. When it's harvest time, students pick what they've grown and enjoy eating a salad made by their own crops!

#### **Volunteer Registration Process**

In order to be able to volunteer in the classroom, enter a classroom during the day, or go on field trips you need to have completed the <u>volunteer registration process</u> and confirm current Covid requirements with the front office before you volunteer. It takes a few weeks, so start ASAP. The front office can guide you through the process. Forms are available on the school website, under the parent tab.

#### Walk 'N Rollers

An organization that encourages kids to walk, bike, skate or scoot to school. Walk 'N Rollers sponsors two events twice a year to help bring awareness to the community. Dance/Walk to School Day typically takes place in October and families "dance-walk" from City Hall to Lin Howe. National Bike to School Day typically takes place in the Spring and riders bike from the Culver City downtown plaza to Lin Howe.

#### Website Links

Culver City Unified School District - <u>https://www.ccusd.org</u> Linwood Howe Elementary - <u>http://linhowe.ccusd.org</u> Afterschool Cornucopia - <u>https://afterschoolcornucopia.org</u> Lin Howe Boosters - <u>https://www.linhoweboosters.com</u> Lin Howe PTA - <u>https://www.linhowepta.com</u> Facebook: Linwood E. Howe PTA & Boosters

#### Yearbook

The yearbook comes out at the end of the year and is filled with photos from throughout the school year. To create the yearbook, parents are asked to send high resolution photos of classroom events, field trips and school events to the PTA Yearbook Committee. Pre-orders are taken in the Spring and the book is distributed at the end of the year.