

November, 2025

I am RESPECTFUL- yes, it's true! I treat others like I want them to.

I am RESPONSIBLE - I do my best! I work hard, shine bright, rise to the test!

I am SAFE - That's the way, so we can learn and laugh each day!

I believe in myself, I believe in my school, I follow our values, I live by our rules.

Respectful, Responsible, Safe-- That's Me!

I am proud to be a Lee Academy Bee!

Important Updates:

Please read carefully for important events and activities as well as school updates.



Upcoming Important Dates			
November 6, 2025	First Family Council meeting		
November 7, 2025	LAPS Monthly Town Hall		
November 11, 2025	Veterans Day: No School		
November 17, 2025	School Preview 8:30am and Retake Picture Day		
November 26, 2025	• Early Release: 12:45pm		
November 27-28, 2025	Thanksgiving Day: No School		
December 1, 2025	Back to school after Thanksgiving break &last day to accept reading pumpkins		

• Please read through this newsletter for some important updates of the upcoming year and upcoming events.

<u>Drive</u> information

Dear Lee Academy Families and Staff

The goal of this food drive is to Collect non-perishable food items to support local families during the holiday season.



Lee Academy Pilot School Family Food Support Sign-Up Form**

Our school is here to help.

If your family could use extra food support this season, please complete this confidential form (Support sign-up form). All information will be kept private and used only to prepare food boxes for your family.

Food box pickup will take place **Tuesday, November 25, from 2:00-4:30 PM**

If you have questions, please contact: Ms. Govi (Gtovar@Bostonpublicschools.org]

Thank you for letting us support your family. We are stronger together!

LAPS Monthly TownHall: November 7, 2025

This year The Lee Academy will be holding meetings on the last Friday of the month for the school community and parents called Town Hall Meetings. They are held in the warmer months outside in the play yard. This year the These meetings will be centered around the Lee Academy core values (School pledge). The Lee Academy Town Hall Meetings are also a time when students will be recognized for perfect and great attendance for the corresponding month. We will also feature a special performance by a grade level of students at each Town Hall Meeting. If your child is

receiving an award or if your child's class will be performing at the Town Hall Meeting, you will receive a special meeting invitation from your child's teacher.

A Pumpkin
Patch of
Readers:
Reading
incentive
program

Dear LAPS Families,

We are celebrating the fall season with a FUN reading incentive program called *A Pumpkin Patch of Readers*. This reading challenge is designed to promote reading practice and enjoyment. You can help your child benefit from this program by setting aside some time each day for reading. The time may be spent when your child reads alone, time when your child reads aloud to you or a loved one, time when you read to your child, or time when your child listens to a story.

At the end of every 15 minutes spent reading, have your child fill out a pumpkin and <u>cut it out neatly</u>. Please <u>initial the pumpkin</u> to verify your child's reading time and return the completed reading pumpkins to school to be used in a fall display (an evolving design that the kids will LOVE). Remember, students earn one pumpkin for every 15 minutes spent reading. So, if your child reads for 30 minutes one night, then he or she will earn 2 pumpkins. Pumpkins will be accepted everyday through Monday, 12/1.

Each grade will need to work together as a team to build the greatest pumpkin patch. Each grade will have its own patch. It helps make the program a little more challenging and a lot more exciting! Your child will contribute to their team's efforts by reading and collecting as many pumpkins as possible during the coming weeks.

To make things even more exciting, LAPS staff members are teaming up to build their own pumpkin patch. We want to motivate and excite our students to read even more! Our school has far more students than staff, so we will have our work cut out for us. But we never shy away from a good challenge!

Which team will have the highest reading time? Which team will build the fullest patch? Only time will tell!

Happy Reading!



Resources for Read Alouds

- Storyline Online https://storylineonline.net/
- PBS Kids https://www.pbs.org/parents/read-along
- Libby (sign up with your library card!) -libbyapp.com

Retake
Picture Day:
November 17,
2025



Students absent on original day:

If you are having your picture taken for the first time because you were absent on Picture Day, have your photo taken on Retake Day and you will receive your photo proof after the event! This proof sheet will also have information on how to order!

Students unsatisfied with their original picture:

If you received your picture package and are unsatisfied, just return your package & proof sheet to the photographers on Retake Day and have your photo retaken. We will replenish your package at no cost!

Estudiantes ausentes el día original: El día de retoma de fotos es la oportunidad para aquellos estudiantes que estuvieron ausentes el día de fotos original. Recibira su prueba de foto después del evento. Su prueba también tendrá información sobre cómo completar su pedido. Estudiantes insatisfechos con su foto original: Si recibe su paquete de fotos y no esta satisfecho, sólo tienes que devolver su paquete y la hoja de pruebas a los fotógrafos el día de retoma y le tomamos su foto de nuevo. Repondremos su paquete sin coste alguno.

LAPS School preview: November 17, 2025 Let all your friends know about our school, we are open for enrollment for the upcoming school year.



Attendance Updates

The Lee Academy Pilot School will continue our "Importance of Attendance" initiative for the year of 2025-2026. We are committed to ensuring every student at our school receives a high quality education. Consistent attendance is a crucial component to academic success so we are striving for each and every student across all grade levels to have a *94% attendance rate* or higher this year. That is the equivalent of less than 10 absences for the year. Attendance of our students is critical to their future academic

success. School attendance is equally as important for our youngest learners as it is when students get older. Students are not required by law to be enrolled in school in those early grades, however when you make the commitment of enrolling your student in school you are committing to abide by our attendance policy.

If your student is absent, If your student is going to absent, late or dismissed early caregivers should:

- Call the front office
- Message the classroom teacher
- Follow through with a note.

Caregivers must physically write a note including date(s), the reason for absence, a phone number where a parent or caregiver can be reached, and the parent or caregiver's signature.

We will work with families to ensure that students come to school, but if families are unresponsive or noncommittal then we are legally required to refer the case to the Supervisor of Attendance and truancy court.

Our goal is for your child to be successful in school and we appreciate your ongoing support.

THANK YOU





As we prepare for unknowing time as the government shuts down here are some Holiday resources as well as community resources.

1. Salvation Army – Angel Tree Program

What it offers: Toys, clothing, and sometimes food for children in need.

Requirements: Apply at local Salvation Army office with ID, proof of residence, income, and child's

age.

https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/angel-tree/

2. Toys for Tots (U.S. Marine Corps Reserve)

What it offers: Free new toys for children up to age 12.

Requirements: Register through local campaign site (proof of residency and child's age often

required).

https://www.toysfortots.org/

Health & Wellness

3. USPS Operation Santa / Be An Elf

What it offers: Children's letters to Santa are adopted by volunteers who send gifts.

Requirements: Families must mail a letter to Santa with child's wish list by the deadline.

https://www.uspsoperationsanta.com/

4. United Way 2-1-1 Holiday Assistance

What it offers: Referrals to local Christmas toy drives, food programs, and utility support.

Requirements: Call 211 or search online; each program referred has its own criteria.

https://www.211.org/

5. American Red Cross – Holiday Giving & Military Support

What it offers: Gift programs, military family support, and emergency holiday aid.

Requirements: Contact local Red Cross office; some programs need military ID.

https://www.redcross.org/donate/holiday.html

6. One Simple Wish

What it offers: Grants Christmas and year-round wishes (toys, clothes, experiences) for foster

children.

Requirements: Wishes submitted by social workers, CASAs, or nonprofit staff on behalf of children.

https://www.onesimplewish.org/

7. Stockings with Care

What it offers: Provides full "Santa wish lists" (toys, clothes, essentials) anonymously delivered.

Requirements: Families must be referred by a social service agency.

https://stockingswithcare.org/

↑ Free vaccine clinics throughout Boston. No appointment necessary, walk-ins welcome: Free Vaccine Clinics in Boston | Boston.gov

Neighborhood Food Action Collaborative Food Resource Guide:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/16O6BcG5aJc9EURCVJtJP5FuH26Gs-MMk/view?usp=sharing

Sign up to receive this guide and other resources in your mailbox weekly http://eepurl.com/hpr7z

Access this guide in 5 languages at www.vitalcxns.org/food





Family Engagement

(Family Council)

The Purpose of The Family Council is to bring all parents in the school community together to support the school and advocate for quality education. It is the place where parents can express concerns, advocate for the school, and plan school activities and events. As the parent or guardian of a Lee Academy student, you are automatically a member of our family Council. We encourage families to attend our monthly meetings to stay connected with your school community.

Join us for our monthly meeting: Thursday November 6, 2025 at 6pm.

Where: Zoom- https://ki2-bostonpublicschools.zoom.us/j/85434154328



All important information from the district as well as our school will be sent via Talking Points, ParentSquared and/or email. We provide information in various languages according to the diverse cultures of our school community. It is important that you download the Talking Points application on your phone so that you can receive LAPS communication.

Click here for Boston Public Schools District Calendar

Contact Information				
School leader : Principal	Carlitta Camillo	ccamillo@bostonpublicschools.or	(617) 635-8618	
Secretary	Zoraida Camacho	zcamacho@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618	
Coordinator of Special Education (COSE)	Pricilla Casna	Pcasna@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618	
School Social Worker	Kim Collins	kcollins@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618	
School Psychologist	Jennifer Medeiros-Crabbe	jmedeiros@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618	
Family Liaison	Govi Tovar	gtovar@bostonpublicschools.org	(617) 635-8618	
School Nurse	Marthe Jean-Jacques	mjeanjacques2@bostonpublicschools. org	(617) 635-8618	

For more information you can call us at (617)635-8618 or visit our website: LeeAcademyPilotSchool.org