

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

Ari A. Hoogenboom, Principal

# PARENT NEWSLETTER

September 2009



*"Catch the Lincoln Spirit"*

## WELCOME TO THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

Returning to school after the summer is a very exciting and challenging time. For many it is an opportunity to make new commitments to your education, as well as an opportunity to greet old friends and make new ones. The Lincoln faculty is committed to your child's success. Please do not hesitate to call upon us for guidance or assistance.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE

Nothing is more important to your child's success than excellent attendance. Your child may not stay home unless he/she is too sick to attend school. Children should not be left home to watch younger brothers or sisters or to wait for the mailman or a delivery. The law is clear: students belong in school every day! Getting to class on time is equally important. Please make every effort to supply the school with accurate addresses and phone numbers so that we may be able to contact you.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL SAFETY

Every student must carry two forms of school identification every day: **a program card and a school photo ID card. The photo I.D. is required for entry into Lincoln High School and students will not be permitted through scanning without them.** Parents please note: Beginning in September 2009 students will be required to wear their school ID on a lanyard or a temporary sticker if forgotten.



### IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Attendance Office	(718) 333-7464
College Office	(718) 333-7504
Deans' Office	(718) 333-7448
Guidance Counselors	(718) 333-7400, <i>by name</i>
Parent Coordinator	(718) 333-7487 (646) 235-8518 (cell phone)
PTA	(718) 333-7487
Senior Activities	(718) 333-7400
Student Organization	(718) 333-7400
9th Grade Academy	(718) 333-7412/7414
School Website:	<a href="http://schools.nyc.gov/schoolportals/21/k410">http://schools.nyc.gov/schoolportals/21/k410</a>

### SCANNING

The Department of Education provided Lincoln with metal detectors and x-ray machines starting September 2005. Scanning has made Lincoln even safer and has allowed us to focus resources on classroom instruction. Please encourage your child to arrive early at school in order to be on time to his or her first class. All students and visitors will be scanned using our state-of-the-art airport-style scanning equipment. Students will enter via the auditorium area and be scanned prior to proceeding to class. Visitors will be scanned at the main entrance and signed in. Visitors are asked to observe school rules while in the building, such as not wearing a hat or do-rag and not using cell phones, etc. In accordance with Chancellor's Regulations, all prohibited items will be confiscated at scanning. The items include cell phones, hats, and i-pods. Opened drink containers are not permitted. Students will be asked to finish the drink prior to entering the scanning area and throw out the remnants. No glass is permitted at all. Other prohibited items include perfume in glass bottles, aerosol deodorant, markers, and lighters. These items will not be returned. **Parents/guardians will be able to pick up confiscated items only at the end of the next scheduled PTA Meeting. You will be asked to present a receipt for the item confiscated.**

### RULES TO REMEMBER

Lincoln High School is proud of its rich tradition of providing a dynamic, exciting educational experience for its students in a safe, nurturing environment. **STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO FOLLOW OUR RULES WILL BE DISCIPLINED** according to Chancellor's Regulations and the Department of Education Discipline Code.

- No weapon of any type, nor any item that could be used as a weapon is permitted in a public school. Violators will be arrested and suspended by the Superintendent.
- Students are expected to dress in a comfortable, but dignified, manner. Skirts and shorts must be appropriate for an academic setting. Revealing tops and clothing that hinders scanning are prohibited. Violators will be placed in school detention until appropriate clothing is obtained. **RU, I-PODS, CAMERAS, OR CELL PHONES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING. ALL PROHIBITED ITEMS WILL BE CONFISCATED AS STUDENTS ENTER SCHOOL THROUGH SCANNING.**
- Respectful, appropriate behavior is expected at all times. Students who disrupt the educational process and setting will be disciplined according to the Chancellor's Regulations.
- Appointment Policy: Parents must make every effort to make an appointment before coming to school. If unable to keep an appointment, you may meet with the Parent Coordinator to schedule one.

**Please be sure to discuss these general guidelines with your child and know the Chancellor's Discipline Code. Each student is issued a copy of the code. Lessons on the discipline code are conducted in social studies classes. Please sign and return the Parent and Student Contracts to the school. We need your support to ensure that Lincoln maintains its proud record of safety and academic excellence.**

## SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

Surveillance cameras are placed throughout the school (both inside and outside). These cameras help our security staff create and maintain the safe, nurturing educational environment for which Lincoln is noted.

## PROGRAMMING

Most programs at Lincoln are "annualized." Simply explained, this means that instead of the entire school being reprogrammed in February, only selected electives will change on your child's schedule. In most cases, your son or daughter will have the same teacher the entire year, allowing for greater continuity of instruction. When a student makes a commitment to enroll in an elective or advanced placement class, it is expected the commitment will be fulfilled.

## TUTORING

At Lincoln, we understand the critical importance of offering tutoring options to all of our students. Many of our teachers are available for tutoring throughout the day, particularly during lunch periods. A cadre of teachers is also available in the Department Offices. Peer tutoring is also available. If you need advice, please call the parent coordinator or your child's counselor.

## GRADUATION IS FOR GRADUATES

The graduation ceremony is an emotional culmination of years of hard work for students and their families. Only students who meet **all** the diploma requirements by June are permitted to attend graduation. Monitor your child's senior year carefully. Each student must fulfill his/her commitment to a full and challenging schedule of classes. Intentional absence or cutting will not be tolerated: it will be reported to colleges and employers, and students will jeopardize their participation in senior activities. Every senior is required to pay senior dues. Disruptive students, students with extensive disciplinary files, and students on suspension can be banned from graduation and other senior activities. Participation in the graduation ceremony and senior activities is earned by seniors who take their academic and social obligations seriously.



## LUNCH — A MANDATE

Lincoln has a no-cash system in its cafeteria. In order to purchase food from either the lunch counter or the school snack counter, the student is required to enter the personal identification number (PIN) that has been assigned to her/him. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch services are still required to have an account and a PIN. Families must fill out and return lunch forms to the school in order to be eligible for free or reduced lunch services.

## FALL 2009 CALENDAR

### September

- 9 Students report for first day of school
- 12,13 *ACT Exam*
- 15 PTA meeting & Parent Orientation, 7 p.m.
- 24 SLT meeting, 5 p.m.
- 28 Yom Kippur - School closed

### October

- 6 PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- 8 College Night - 7p.m., Cafeteria
- 10 *SAT Exam*
- 12 Columbus Day - School closed
- 14 *PSAT Exam*
- 15 SLT meeting, 5 p.m.
- 16 First marking period ends
- 18 *SAT Exam*
- 24, 25 *ACT Exam*
- 27 Open House, 7 p.m.
- 29 **Report card distribution**  
Open School evening, 6:00-8:30 p.m.
- 30 **Report card distribution**  
Open School day, 12:00-2:00 p.m.  
Neighborhood Trick or Treat, 6 p.m.

### November

- 3 Election Day - No classes for students
- 7, 8 *SAT Exam*
- 10 PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11 Veterans Day - School closed
- 19 SLT meeting, 5 p.m.
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Recess - School closed

## PSAT'S, SAT'S

We urge all of our students to take these very important tests. Almost all colleges require them. They provide parents with an effective way to determine which schools are suited for their child and are required for scholarships. *For a complete schedule of upcoming SAT & ACT exams see calendar below.*

## PTA

Abraham Lincoln High School is proud of its active Parent-Teacher-Association. We meet every month (see calendar) to discuss vital issues affecting your child. Parent workshops & events occur during meetings, so be sure to join. Your child will receive an envelope with a suggested donation of \$5, which may be returned during a PTA meeting. The PTA & Parent Coordinator look forward to working with you this year.

## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

The School Leadership Team, comprised of parents, teachers, students, and administrators works to improve Lincoln High School. The SLT has held successful "summit meetings" to bring Lincoln's concerns to the attention of the central Department of Education bureaucracy at Tweed. Our active SLT has truly made a difference.

## NY STATE STANDARDS

High expectations bring high results. The State Education department has developed Learning Standards in every academic area. In addition, there are uniform Promotion Standards that specify the number and type of credits necessary for promotion to the next grade level. Promotion Standards will be sent home with your child in September. Please familiarize yourselves with them.

### December

- 1 PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- 2 Second marking period ends
- 5,6 *SAT Exam*
- 11 Report card distribution
- 12, 13 *ACT Exam*
- 24-31 School closed for Winter Recess

### January

- 1 New Year's Day - School closed
- 4 Students return to school
- 5 PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - School closed
- 21 SLT meeting, 5 p.m.
- 22 Third marking period ends /Last day of classes for Fall term
- 23, 24 *SAT Exam*
- 25-29 Regents/RCT Exams

### February

- 1 **Report card distribution for fall term**  
Program & MetroCard distribution for spring term

