



2019/2020 School Year

**Lawrence Elementary Library Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 A.M.- 3 P.M.**

Dear Lawrence Labrador Families:

Lawrence students will visit the library each week during their scheduled class period. During this time I will share a story or we will do a creative activity in the Makerspace.

When your child visits the library he or she will choose a book (1 book for TK and Kinder; 2 books for Grades 1-5) to bring home for one week. The book(s) must be returned the next week for your child to be able to check out another book(s).

When your child brings home a book, please help him/her find a safe place to keep the book where it will be out of the way of younger siblings and pets. We encourage our students to take responsibility for returning their books on time, but parents are responsible to pay for any lost or damaged materials (Board Policy 6161.2). Books are overdue after two weeks. After four weeks, an email will go home with the details of the book and the cost to replace it. Cash or check (made out to Lawrence Elementary) are accepted. Please be aware that missing books or unpaid fines will prevent your child from participating in end-of-year parties and their report card will be held until the replacement fee is paid. Please also be aware that missing books and unpaid fines follow a student from one school year to the next, as well as from one school site to another.

Students are welcome to RETURN books from 8:00 A.M until 8:25 am and from dismissal until 3:00 pm without a parent present. If your child would like to browse for books or spend time reading in the library, they will need to be accompanied by a parent. Please remind them that the library is not for social gathering.

There are select books in our library that will be checked out to older students with parent permission only. They are stored in a special case, and although the reading level may be appropriate, the content may be more mature (example: The Hunger Games). If your child expresses an interest in one of these books, you will receive an email for parent approval before the book is checked out.

If library time is used in the Makerspace, books that were checked out will be due the next time your child visits the library. Students are also welcome to return books before or after school (8:00 am-8:25 am and dismissal until 3:00 pm)

We will be doing many projects in the Makerspace this year. What is a Makerspace you ask? It is a place for our students to create, invent, and learn. We have many creative options in the Makerspace, including a lego wall, robotics, green screen animation,



Makey Makey circuits, tool kits, a 3D printer, and general craft activities. We will be expanding our options as funding and staffing allow. If you are interested in donating or volunteering in the Makerspace, please let me know. All donations are optional and no student will be denied participation in any activities for choosing not to donate. I look forward to helping your student grow through books and the endless creative options in our Makerspace.

Volunteering in the Library

Classroom teachers will put out sign-ups for library volunteers to visit with their classes. A classroom library volunteer visits each week, during their scheduled classroom time. The volunteers will scan all of the books in and shelve books if time allows. After a short story or activity, volunteers will assist with book checkout. This is a 30-40 minute weekly commitment and appreciated greatly by students and staff! And, most importantly, we have a lot of fun in the library!

PAWSitively Reading For Success

In addition to expanding our students' creative learning and love of books, we have Alliance of Therapy Dogs visiting our campus again this year. Cleared volunteer handlers will visit our campus periodically to provide therapeutic contact. Visits will include reading time and group activity.

Per the UC Davis, Student and Health Counseling Services site:

“There are many benefits of having a pet that have been proven through research. The American Heart Association has found that people who own pets, especially dogs, have a lowered risk of heart disease. Other studies show that pet owners are less likely to suffer from depression and have lower blood pressure in stressful situations than those who don't own pets. However, you don't necessarily have to own a pet to enjoy the benefits of spending time with animals. People who spend time petting or playing with a dog show elevated levels of serotonin and dopamine, which are neurotransmitters that contribute to relaxation and calmness. Therapy dogs are often brought to sites such as nursing homes or hospitals, where their visits can calm patients, relieve pain, and bring comfort and joy.”

As stated in the LVJUSD Board Policy, BP 6163.2, written notification must be provided to all parents/guardians of students when an animal is brought to school. It is the responsibility of the parent to provide notification of a health condition that may be aggravated by the animals' presence. If you would like your child to “opt out” of interaction with the therapy dogs, please notify me:

arivera@lvjUSD.org

Notification needs to be received by September 9, 2019

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