



Fort Lee Public Schools
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate & Middle Schools

“Daily Growth Is Our Mission”

467 Stillwell Avenue ♦ Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

Phone: 201.720.3099 ♦ Fax: 201.585.1688

www.FLBOE.com

Dr. Robert Daniello, Principal	Phone: 201.720.3099	Email: rdaniello@flboe.com
Gina Ruesga, Asst. Principal	Phone: 201.720.3099	Email: gruesga@flboe.com
Joseph Finizio, Asst. Principal	Phone: 201.585.4660	Email: jfinizio@flboe.com

September 5, 2019

Dear Intermediate School Parents and Guardians,

I am thrilled to announce the opening of our community’s new intermediate school on Monday, September 9 for all grade 5 and 6 students. A temporary certificate of occupancy was granted today and we are eager to get the 2019-2020 school year started. This is an extremely exciting time for all of the faculty and staff who will work with your children over the next two years to prepare them for middle school. I am confident that your child will enjoy his/her new experience in the intermediate building.

Prior to opening on Monday, September 9, there are some important items to note:

1. An open house / walk-through will take place on Sunday, September 8 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the intermediate building. This is open to all grade 5 and 6 parents, guardians, and students. We hope that this provides a level of comfort for you and your child prior to the start of school on Monday, September 9. We hope that this opportunity provides a level of comfort for you and your child prior to the start of school on Monday, September 9. Please be aware that there is still some finishing work ongoing that will continue after school hours when the new school year begins.
2. Student drop-off and pick-up are items of concern as we begin a new traffic pattern and add over 600 students to our campus. Chief Hintze of the Fort Lee Police Department is working closely with us to provide a police presence for at least the first two weeks of school. We will also assign our in-house security guards, teachers and administrators to the outside entrance locations in order to direct the traffic flow in the mornings and afternoons. There is a separate road closest to the athletic field to access the round-about on the side of the intermediate building.
3. School start time for grade 5 and 6 students is 8:50 a.m. and dismissal time is 3:10 p.m. All students can be dropped off as early as 7:30 a.m. at the round-about on the side of the intermediate building, which is also where the cafeteria doors are located. Students have the

option to purchase breakfast and no official sign-ups are necessary. Students will be dismissed at 3:10 p.m. from the cafeteria and main entrance doors of the intermediate building.

4. Upon arrival on Monday, September 9, a host of faculty and staff will be present to support your child in finding the proper location to assemble. Grade 6 students will gather in the intermediate cafeteria and grade 5 students will gather in the intermediate gymnasium. Your child's homeroom teacher will then escort his/her respective homeroom students to the homeroom classroom for an introduction and orientation activities.

5. There will be a limited lunch menu available for the first week of school for grade 5 and 6 students. This will consist of pre-made sandwiches, pizza, fruit and vegetables. It is highly encouraged that you send your grade 5 or 6 child to school with lunch throughout the first week of school (Sept. 9 to Sept. 13). However, these items will be available for purchase along with water, juice and milk.

This has been a much anticipated opening for the entire Fort Lee school community and community at large. I truly appreciate all of the feedback and concerns raised throughout the process of construction. I also thank you for your patience and understanding as this major project and transition progressed over the last several years. Your children are entering this school year in a brand new, state-of-the-art facility that will provide them with an unprecedented opportunity to grow and mature academically, socially and emotionally. All of our faculty, staff and administrators are eager to help support all of your child's needs as they prepare for the middle school level.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and I look forward to leading your child through the next four years at Lewis F. Cole Intermediate and Middle Schools.

Sincerely,

Robert Daniello, Ed.D.
Principal
Lewis F. Cole Middle School
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School

Gina Ruesga
Assistant Principal
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School

Joseph Finizio
Assistant Principal
Lewis F. Cole Middle School