

# Parent to Parent:

## Things I Wish I'd Known as a New Family at Lotspeich

---

*Brought to You by the Lotspeich Parent Community (PC)*

### People to Know

**Kitty Fischer**, Administrative Assistant, is an important person to know. Kitty gets to know every child at school. Feel free to call Kitty with questions about almost anything. Among other things, Kitty can deliver a message to your child during the course of the day, can notify your child of a change regarding end of day pick-up, knows your child's schedule, can assist with questions regarding conference sign-ups, knows the calendar of important school events and can point you in the right direction if she can't help you herself. If Kitty is unavailable, please check with Amy Francis.

**Amy Francis**, Administrative Assistant to Susan Miller. If you need to schedule an appointment with Susan, please call Amy.

**Seraphine Schomber**, Counseling Department Chair and Lotspeich Guidance Counselor. If you have any concerns about your child's adjustment to school, or about his/her social, learning, or emotional development, Seraphine can be an insightful partner and resource, as well as provide helpful suggestions.

**Jill Romerill and Christina O'Donnell**, Director and Assistant Director, respectively, of After the Bell, After School Enrichment, and Summer Programs.

**Joy Copfer**, School Nurse. Joy administers prescription and over-the-counter medication (provided that the appropriate authorized forms were submitted), is your contact for any health-related concerns impacting your child at school, and can be a very helpful resource for all of your child's health-related matters. **Ann Sebastian** is also a Hillsdale campus school nurse.

## Weekly / Daily Events

### Morning Assembly

Grades 1–5 attend assembly each Monday at 8:30 AM, and there is a special first day of school assembly. Susan Miller discusses upcoming events and allows students to share important happenings at school. Normally the assembly is held in the Lotspeich library. This year will be a flexible combination of gathering in the library and broadcasting to homerooms. While usually parents are welcome to attend, **this option has been suspended until further notice as a safety precaution**. Each assembly ends with these school songs:

#### Song: Lotspeich Seven Values

Seven Hills has 7 values that we practice every day  
To help us live together, to help us learn and play  
We're taught them when we're little and build on them as we grow  
To build a healthy world it is important that you know  
About respect for every living thing, the grounds and buildings too  
Honesty to always say the things you know are true  
Be kind to everyone and fair in all the games you play  
And strive for excellence in everything we do each day  
Caring for each other's our responsibility  
That's why we spend some time to help our whole community  
Seven Hills (clap, clap) 7 values (clap, clap, clap) 7 days a week. Yeah!

#### Song: Give a Cheer for Lotspeich

Give a cheer for Lotspeich  
The yellow and the blue  
The school that has the spirit  
The team that follows through  
Give a cheer for Lotspeich  
The yellow and the blue  
Give a cheer - Rah! Rah!  
Give a cheer - Rah! Rah!  
For Lotspeich School

Bo Bo ski watn datn  
Wa datn sss.  
Itn bittn widdle diddle  
Ish ka bibbldy  
Ootn tootn  
Bo bo ski watn datn  
Wa datn sss.  
Bo bo ski wa datn sss Lotspeich.  
(piano solo, then yell) CHARGE!

(Note: This song is NOT loaded with typos!)

## Cafeteria

Each child has a card at school which enables them to charge their lunch, starting from the very beginning of the school year. The cards are kept in the cafeteria, eliminating the need to bring money. The charges are included on the monthly bill that you receive for any food and Extended Day fees.

The cafeteria menu is published on both the [7hills.org](http://7hills.org) under Parents—>Dining and on Schoology at [my.7hills.org](http://my.7hills.org). Pizza is available every day in addition to the published menu.

While typically you can join your child for lunch, **this option has been suspended until further notice as a safety precaution**. Once the school is able to host parent visitors again, just sign in at the school office and then meet your child (in the ECC for PreK and K, and in the cafeteria for grades 1-5) during their lunch period. Teachers ask that parents refrain from coming to lunch for the first few weeks of school to allow everyone to acclimate to cafeteria procedures.

## Spirit Shop

The school Spirit Shop carries everything from pencils to sweatshirts to water bottles, all with the Seven Hills logo. It is located between Hillsdale Commons and the Kalnow gymnasium. Currently due to COVID, the school Spirit Shop will begin the year with online sales ([store.7hills.org](http://store.7hills.org)) and evaluate options for opening in person as the year continues.

## Major Events

There are several all-grade, family-friendly events which are particularly special traditions for the school community. While the circumstances this year may limit our ability to gather as a community, we look forward to the return of these events when possible.

The Friday evening of **Homecoming** weekend is a fun family night. All Lotspeich families are invited to attend. Before the game, the school hosts a variety of sports clinics on the property targeted to lower school-aged children. The evening is capped off with an all school event.

**Halloween** is a big deal at Lotspeich. Children wear costumes to school and participate in a Halloween parade in Kalnow gymnasium beginning at 9:00AM. Parents and siblings are invited and encouraged to attend. Children will need a change of clothes for after the parade.

**May Fete** is the annual Lotspeich school carnival run by the Parent Community. It is festive and fun, and proceeds cover the costs of yearly Lotspeich Parent Community events. May Fete requires many hands to be a success. We hope you can join us in the volunteer fun.

## Physical Education

Students must wear lace-up or velcro sneakers to gym every day. No Slip-ons, Crocs, or Keens are acceptable footwear. Grades 1-5 have gym 4–5 days per week and Pre-K and Kindergarten have gym 1-3 days per week. Your child's "Specials" schedule is the same each

week. Your child's teacher will provide the schedule at the beginning of the year, so that you can plan for gym shoes days.

## Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Please refer to the information the school sent home regarding drop-off and pick-up arrangements for the 2021–2022 school year.

If your child will be picked up by someone other than yourself or your regular driver, a note must be sent to school with your child or a call must be placed to Kitty in the Lotspeich office.

Parents and students are encouraged to use the crosswalk near the Resale Shop when crossing Red Bank Road. During drop-off and pick-up there is a police officer/crossing guard stationed at that crosswalk.

There is a **shuttle bus** that runs from Lotspeich to Doherty every morning and afternoon. If your child has an afternoon practice on the Doherty campus he/she can take the "Early Bus" to Doherty, (named this because the children who take this leave a few minutes before dismissal), and either go directly to practice or to "After The Bell" until practice begins.

## Staying Informed / Getting Involved

The school shares various publications on a regular basis to communicate important information to parents. The weekly **Lotspeich e-blast** provides information on upcoming events at Lotspeich.

All school divisions use an online learning management system called **Schoology** to facilitate learning, sharing, and communication among teachers, students, and parents. You will receive a Schoology login via email and will log in to the site with those credentials at [7hills.schoology.com](http://7hills.schoology.com). There is also a Schoology app for iOS and Android. Use Schoology to learn about your child's activities and parent-only group information. We advise you to check out the Account Settings section, where you can configure your personal notification settings, privacy settings, change your password, etc.

A **schedule of upcoming Lotspeich events** can be found by logging in to [my.7hills.org](http://my.7hills.org) and clicking the School Calendar link under the Calendars menu. On a monthly basis, the school publishes **The Seven Hills Buzz**, and on a semester basis, **The Seven Hills Magazine**. Both publications highlight happenings across the school's 4 divisions and can be found on the school's website under Parents—>Publications and News.

The Lotspeich Parent Community publishes information that is sent out through the Lotspeich weekly e-blasts, through Schoology, and through direct communication via classroom room parents. Get involved early and often. The Parent Community is a great way to get involved and meet new people across all grade levels.

The Lotspeich Parent Community holds several **Town Hall meetings** throughout the year, featuring Seven Hills faculty speaking on topics related to their specialties. The schedule and topics will be announced in advance and included on the school calendar.

The **school directory** is very useful. In the back of the paper directory students are classified by grade and zip code. It also has directions to different sports venues around town if your child is participating in a school sport. The front of the directory has a school calendar and provides contact information for the faculty, staff, and Parent Community contacts. The directory can also be accessed online by logging in to [my.7hills.org](http://my.7hills.org), clicking "Family Access Module" at the top, and then clicking "Directory" on the left.

## Snow

Snow is a welcome event at Lotspeich. We take full advantage of creative play in the snow and will have recess outside. However, to play in the snow the children must bring boots, snow pants, hats, gloves and/or a change of clothes. Children who do not have boots and snow pants must play under the covered pavilion during recess.

Information about school closings or delays will be communicated via pre-recorded voice message from Chris Garten.

## Miscellaneous

During **parent-teacher conference sign-ups**, you may also set up conferences with one or more of your child's "Specials" teachers, although it is not required.

**Cell phones, DSs, Gameboys, IPODs, etc.** are not permitted at school during the day.

**Class gifts** for teachers are not permitted for holidays or at the end of the year. **Individual gifts** are not mandatory but are acceptable.

The **Seven Hills Resale Shop** is a thrift shop located across the street from the main entrance of the school. The Resale Shop is accepting donations of household items/appliances, clothing, shoes, linens, sporting goods, tools, and small furniture items. The Resale Shop only accepts donations from Seven Hills families, and it is open to the public for shopping. All proceeds go back to the school. Stop in and check it out, or give them a call at 513-271-7977.