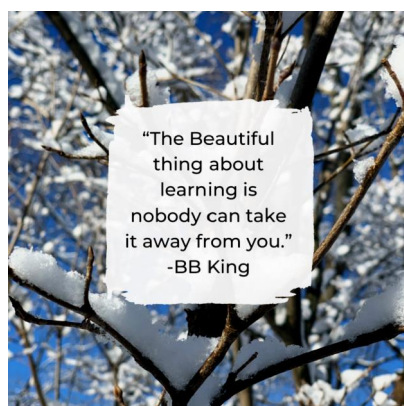




Weekly Newsletter • January 23, 2023

Your PTO—enhancing education and welfare of LHS students and fostering communication throughout the LHS community

Upcoming Events



Jan 23-27

- Jan 23 PTO Board Mtg (Zoom [link](#))
- Jan 24 School Committee Mtg, 6:00pm
- Jan 26 Parent/Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades), 9am
- Jan 27 Sophomore Dance, 7–10pm, Commons II

Jan 30–Feb 3 Week 22

- Jan 31 Posting of LHS 2023-24 Program of Studies
- Feb 1 Junior Parent Night (pre-recorded)
- Feb 2 Parent/Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades), 9am
- Feb 2 Curriculum Night, 6–7:30pm

Save the Date

- Feb 10 Half-day
- Feb 15 Class of 2027 Incoming Student Night, 6:00pm, LHS Auditorium
- Mar 2 Athletics Spring Pre-Season Mtg, 6pm
- Mar 11 Lexington Parent Academy

If you have a gmail account your Weekly Newsletter is being clipped. Please click on the link at the top of the newsletter "To view this email as a web page, click here" to get the full picture. Thank you!

Weekly Announcements

PTO News

How can we help you? We welcome conversation, questions, and dialogue. Connect with us by email anytime at president@lhspto.org.

Thank you!

Kim McCormick & Meg Khanolkar
LHS PTO Co-Presidents



What did the PTO do last week?

- Held the January Forum: Author talk with Natasha Warikoo
- Prepared for this Monday's January PTO Board meeting (Zoom [link](#))



Sarah Ward Presentation on Executive Functioning

Join us right here at LHS to hear Sarah Ward, who will present a seminar on executive function skills for students with speech-language and brain-based learning challenges. Sarah is an internationally recognized expert in the assessment and treatment of executive functioning deficits. She has over twenty-five years of experience in diagnostic evaluations, treatment and case management of children, adolescents and adults with a wide range of developmental brain-based learning difficulties including:

- Attention Deficit Disorder
- Verbal Learning Disabilities
- Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Other Social-Cognitive Learning Disabilities

This event will be in-person only, and is suitable for students and adults ages 12 years and older. This event is co-sponsored by the LHS PTO and the Lexington Special Education Parent Advisory Council (LexSEPAC/SEPTA).

- **When:** Mon, Jan 30, 7–9:00pm (Please arrive promptly)
- **Where:** Lexington High School, Science Lecture Hall ([map](#))
- **RSVP**[here](#)
- **Please email questions**[here](#)

Safe Schools: An ally's guide for reducing homophobia & transphobia

Join the LHS PTO & School Health Advisory Council "SHAC" for a presentation by the Greater Boston PFLAG (Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), an organization whose mission is to provide support for families with LGBTQ youth. During this 90-minute presentation, the panel will share their personal experiences, talk about what is and isn't helpful, and discuss easy ways we all can help. This forum will be virtual, with a brief business meeting from 7-7:15pm, followed by the presentation. The forum is suitable for all K-12 parents, educators, students, and community members.

- **When:** Mon, Feb 6, 7–9:00pm
- **To Join:** Zoom Meeting [Link](#)

LHS and LPS Announcements



Updates from Dr. Stephens

- The [LHS News and Happenings Letter](#) has everything you need to know about what's going on at LHS.
- The **Program of Studies** for the 2023-2024 school year will be on the LHS Counseling Department website by the **afternoon of Jan 31**. Here are some helpful links:
 - LHS Guidance Department website with 2023-24 Program of Studies [link](#) (released afternoon of Jan 31)
 - Course selection timeline [link](#) for current LHS students
 - Course selection timeline [link](#) for current 8th graders
- The Counseling Department will release the **Junior Parent/Guardian Information Presentation** **Wed, Feb 1** in lieu of an in-person or live event.
 - The presentation will include a video from members of the Counseling Department that will address how LHS counselors support your junior student, post-secondary options, impacts of COVID-19, some common myths, and how families can support their student(s).
 - We will also be releasing a pre-recorded Q&A session. In order to make sure we are addressing your questions, *please submit your questions* through [this google form](#). We will be accepting questions through Fri, Jan 7.
 - Additionally, we highly recommend you view [this video](#) released by MEFA that covers a range of broader post-secondary/college planning topics and is geared towards juniors.
- **LHS Curriculum Night** will be on **Thu, Feb 3 from 6–7:30pm**. This event will be remote.
 - Before the event, the administration will send out Curriculum Night presentations from each department outlining their respective program and frequently asked questions pertaining to course selection and curricular offerings/sequence. Those will be available anytime for your viewing.
 - Starting at 6:00pm on Feb 3, you can “choose your own adventure” by attending live sessions for any department of interest for you. There will be three ½ hour sessions for this where you can drop into one or more departmental LIVE sessions (see the [LHS News and Happening Letter](#) for list of times/departments) which emulates the drop-in format of past years. These informal sessions will take place via Google meet or Zoom and the links will be shared out along with the recorded presentations.
- The **Class of 2027 Student and Parent/Caregiver Information Evening** will be held in person on **Feb 15 at 6:00pm** in the LHS Auditorium.
 - Students are encouraged to attend with their parents/guardians. This event is for current 8th grade students/families only.

- The presentation will include information on the course recommendation and course request process, factors to consider when requesting courses and contemplating academic levels, the scheduling process timeline, the LHS 6-day cycle/block rotation, ways to support your student throughout the transition, and general questions about life as a high school student.
- If you are unable to attend in person, the presentation will be available on our [website](#).
- If you have any questions during this process, please reach out to your student's 8th grade teachers and counselor.



Spring 2023 Athletic Pre-Season Meeting

All LHS student-athletes interested in participating in an interscholastic spring sport should attend the upcoming Spring 2023 Athletic Pre-Season Meeting with a parent or guardian. The meeting will begin with a large group session, followed by sport-specific breakout sessions where you can meet with the coaching staff of your respective sport. It is a fantastic opportunity to hear from head coaches about their expectations and learn more for the upcoming season.

Spring Sports

- Baseball
- Softball
- Boys Lacrosse
- Girls Lacrosse, Boys Outdoor Track & Field
- Girls Outdoor Track & Field
- Boys Tennis
- Girls Tennis
- Boys Volleyball
- Boys Ultimate Frisbee
- Girls Ultimate Frisbee
- Unified Basketball

Should you have any questions regarding this meeting, or are unable to attend in person, you can visit the Athletics page on LHS' website or contact the athletic office at (781) 861-2320 ext. 69902.

- **Pre-Season Meeting Date:** Thu, Mar 2, 6pm
- **Where:** LHS auditorium
- **Online registration** begins Feb 1
- **Spring Season begins** Mon, Mar 20

New LHS Building Website is now live!

Last March, the MA School Building Authority (the "MSBA") Board of Directors voted to invite the Statement of Interest (the "SOI") for Lexington High School into the MSBA's Eligibility Period. Why is this such a big deal? If the district successfully navigates all of the MSBA's requirements during the Eligibility Period, it will have an opportunity to be invited into the "capital pipeline," which will position Lexington for a substantial grant to offset the costs of a new or renovated high school. Are you wondering how you can get

the most up-to-date information on this new Lexington High School construction project? Check out the new [LHS Building Project Website!](#)

LPS Vaccine Clinic

Lexington Public Schools is hosting another vaccine clinic open to all Lexington residents and LPS staff. Both Covid-19 and flu shots will be available. Please take advantage of this offering.

- **When:** Fri, Jan 27, 9:00am–5:00pm
- **Where:** Central Office, 146 Maple Street, Lexington
- **Sign-up**[here](#)

LHS Community News

LEXINGTON



Upcoming LexSEPAC/LexSEPTA Meeting

Please Join us for the next LexSEPAC/LexSEPTA Meeting with special guests from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Lexington Public Schools Administration. Lexington SEPAC/SEPTA, an organization of Lexington parents, encompasses both the Parent Advisory Council for children with special needs in Lexington, MA, and Lexington's special education PTA.

This special meeting will feature an update with Dee Wyatt from the Office of Public School Monitoring, who will speak on the district's current DESE Group B Tiered Focused Monitoring Review. This update will be followed by a discussion of the new "The Honors for All initiative" at LHS, along with updates from the superintendent, the district's director of Special Education, and two school committee members.

- **When:** Wed, Jan 25, 7–8:45pm
- **Where:** LPS Central Office meeting conference room, OR zoom
- **Register**[here](#)

ADHD Parents Support Group Meeting

Please join us at our upcoming ADHD Parent Support Meeting. The goal of these meetings is to provide support for parents of children in Lexington who have an ADHD diagnosis or believe their child may have this diagnosis. We focus on sharing treatment resources, therapies, and specialists, and guidance on how to best navigate the Lexington Public School system. We are a sub-group of the Lexington SEPAC/SEPTA.

- **When:** Wed, Jan 25, 10–11am
- **Where:** Lexington Community Center, room 121



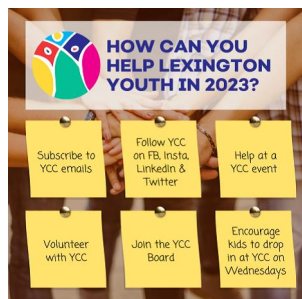
Parent Volunteer Opportunity—FOLMADS

Parents and caregivers, we need your help at the LHS performing arts events for the second half of the school year. If you're interested, please sign-up through this [FOLMADS sign-up genius link](#).

LHS Parent/Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

- **Next Meeting:** Thu, Jan 26, 9:00am (virtual)
- **Topic:** Curriculum Night & Junior Parent Night
- **To Join:** Email [Jen Roney](mailto:Jen.Roney) with your full name, and the grade(s) of your LHS student(s)

Lexington Community News



Parent Volunteer Opportunity: Youth Counseling Connection

Looking to make a difference in kids' well-being this year? Volunteer with [Youth Counseling Connection](#), Lexington's independent and free mental health service provider for kids and families. YCC is a grassroots nonprofit that relies on community support. Help out in the office, at an event, or join our Board. Learn more about all the opportunities at our [website](#) or contact [Emily](#). Thanks!

Useful Links and Resources

PTO Links

- [LHS PTO Homepage](#)
- [Membership Toolkit Registration Link](#)
- [Volunteer](#)
- [LHS PTO on Facebook](#)
- [Who's on the PTO Board this year](#)
- [Useful Links](#)
- [LPS 2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

LHS Links

- This year's [school calendar](#) 2022-2023
- LHS [Student Absence Form 2022-2023](#)
- LHS [Block Schedule](#) and directions to [add Block Schedule to your Calendar](#)
- No Homework [Calendar](#)
- LHS [Counseling Department webpage](#)
- Superintendent's [reports](#)
- School Committee [webpage](#)
- Building Committee [webpage](#)
- LHS Building Project [webpage](#)

Community Resources

- Cary Library [teen programs](#)
- Lexington Recreation and Community Programs: [classes for children and teens](#)
- Lexington Community Education: [classes on test prep and college planning](#), and [classes for children and teens](#)
- [Munroe Center for the Arts](#)
- [Youth Counseling Connection](#)

Stay Connected

- Principal Stephens: Follow him on Twitter (@LexingtonHSMa)
 - Athletics [games/meets](#)
 - LHS PTO [website](#) and [Facebook](#) group
 - LHS [Performing Arts Calendar](#)
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