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SUBJECT: LHS PTO Newsletter NOV 14, 2022



Weekly Newsletter • November 14, 2022

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

Upcoming Events



Nov 14-18

Week 12

Nov 14

Conference sign-ups begin, 12pm
1st Quarter report cards out on Aspen
PTO Board Meeting, 7pm ([zoom link](#))

Nov 15

Deadline to register for AP exams (to avoid late fee)

Junior Caregiver Group, 9am and 7pm
Senior Caregiver Group, 9am

School Committee Meeting, 6pm

Nov 17

Parent/Caregiver Discussion Group, 9am
Senior Caregiver Group, 7pm

Nov 21-23

Week 13

Nov 23

Half Day for all students

Nov 24-25

No School: Thanksgiving Holiday

Save the Date

Nov 28

No School (High School ONLY): Parent-Teacher Conferences

Dec 2

Half Day

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

Welcome to Week 12!

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



Help fund LHS teacher grants!

We want to be able to support staff grant requests as much as possible, but the LHS PTO membership is way down, supply costs are way up, and teacher grant requests are higher than expected. The good news is that **as of today, we just need to raise \$1K more to meet our funding goal for these grants!**

Did you know that this September alone we received 20 grant proposals? We are thrilled that LHS staff is asking for assistance to improve and invigorate the educational experience for students this year more than the past 3 years combined!

How can you help? Donate via [Pay Pal/Credit Card](#) or [Membership Toolkit](#).

We're asking the community to consider donating to this short fundraising effort to support staff grants at LHS.

Your donation will enable some truly wonderful things to be possible at LHS for students including:

- Funding creative new iBlocks for students to connect and learn such as games, lawn games, and knitting.
- Supplies for interactive community conversations about current events, stressors, learning, and living as a teen.
- Props for bringing plays to life in English and drama classes
- Supplies for learning about mathematicians from diverse backgrounds
- Interactive problem-solving kits for mathematics
- Amplifiers and contemporary sound systems for music classes
- Tools for the scene shop
- Tablets for AP Computer Science Principles and Computer Design, and Code classes.
- And more!

For a complete list of past grants, we invite you to head over to <https://www.lhspto.org/past-examples> and see the amazing grants your PTO membership dues have allowed us to award.

We'd Love Your Feedback!



Thank you to the many parents and caregivers who attended last Wednesday's **Q&A with the LHS Counseling Department!**

If you attended the event, we'd love to hear your feedback! Please tell us your thoughts [here](#).



Thank you, PTO Bakers!

Many thanks to all the parents and caregivers who baked cookies and donated supplies for last month's Cookie Pop-Up Event for the LHS community!

Martha Queenin and her LHS Peer Leader Mentors wrote that "The Cookie Pop-Up was a HUGE success. Between the parent/guardian bakers and kids, we had over 1,000 cookies and we gave out every single one. We had plenty of decoration donations as well. Staff and students were joyful and left the Pop-Up in such a happy mood. People were so incredibly grateful. We couldn't have done it without you."

Thank you, PTO parents for making this event a success!



What did the LHS PTO do last week?

- Held in-person **Counseling Department Forum** with 50 attendees
- Continued fundraiser for **teacher mini-grants**; donate [here](#) to help us finish the fundraiser!
- Prepared for next week's **hospitality event**
- Finalized and sent the 2022-2023 **PTO Directory** to printers

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 window to set up a virtual conference time with one or more of your child's teachers will open on Nov 14 at 12pm. For details see below or click [here](#)

Parent Conferences (virtual): Nov 28

- **Sign-Ups Open:** November 14, 12pm

Teachers prioritize ahead of time the students who are most in need of a conference and the remaining appointments are made available to parents/guardians. One day of conferences for over 2,200 students is not sufficient to accommodate all families.

- Conferences are an opportunity to discuss 1–2 areas of main concern that place a student at risk—academically and/or emotionally.
- Conferences are an opportunity to share vital information that impacts school performance, personal development, or acclimation to the high school or a particular grade level.
- If you do not have questions or concerns or just want to thank the teacher, please contact teachers via email, leaving more slots open for those who need them.

Information and instructions for sign-ups are below:

- [Parent/Teacher Virtual Conferences Information and directions](#)

AP Exam Registration

Students must be registered for AP exams by Tuesday, November 15 to avoid a \$40.00 late fee.

Click [here](#) to find out everything you need to know about AP Exam Registration Dates, Deadlines and Testing Information.

You'll find:

- Links to register for AP Exams
- The AP Testing Student and Parents Acknowledgement Form
- The SSD Accommodations for Testing Consent forms and deadlines

Questions? Check out the [LHS Counseling's AP website page](#), or contact [Danielle Ballou](#), the LHS AP Testing Coordinator.

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:** Thu, Dec 17, 12:30-7:00
- **Where:** Central Office, 146 Maple St
- **Sign-up**[here](#)

LHS Community News

LEXINGTON



SEPAC / SEPTA

Basic Rights: Understanding the IEP

Lexington's SEPTA is offering a free presentation that will delve into the Individual Education Program (IEP) document, its development, the breakdown of each section and how the document will support a student.

Topics include:

- Why the IEP is important
- Who is eligible for an IEP
- How the IEP is developed
- Strengths and concerns
- Vision statements
- Explanation of the various sections of the IEP
- Differences between *accommodations* and *modifications*
- Response, placement and consent
- Procedural safeguards and more!

- **When:** Thu, Nov 17, 6–8:00pm
 - **Where:** online
 - **Register**[here](#)
 - **For more information** contact [Myriam Wright](#)
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Parent Volunteer Opportunities for Upcoming Performing Arts Events!

Parents/caregivers, we need your help at performing arts events this school year! Interested? Please sign-up through this FOLMADS [sign-up genius link](#).

FOLMADS is the Friends of Lexington Music Art and Drama Students group, a parent-run group that supports the visual and performing arts in Lexington Public Schools. For more information on volunteering, email [Sawako Gensure](#).

LHS Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

- **Next Meeting:** Thu, Nov 17, 9am
 - **Topic:** Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - **To Join:** Email [Jen Roney](#) with your full name, and the grade(s) of your LHS student(s)
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Junior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

- **Next Meeting:** Wed, Nov 16, 9am *and* 7pm (both sessions cover the same material; please note this week's evening meeting is on *Wednesday*, not Thursday)
 - **Topic:** Open Discussion
 - **To Join:** Sign up for the mailing list and meeting links [here](#)
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Senior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

- **Next Meetings:** Tue, Nov 15, 9am AND Thu, Nov 17, 7pm
 - **Location:** Community Center, Rm 242 (both meetings)
 - **Topic:** On Tuesday morning, Guest Speaker Lara Kallander will speak on *"Using Positive Psychology to Support Students Dealing with Rejection, Acceptance and Waitlisting,"* and on Thursday evening, Guest Speaker Amy Selinger will speak on *"Dealing with Denial and Managing Maybe."*
 - **Contact**[Cynthia Pfeiffer](#) for further details
 - **More event information** is available on our [Facebook group](#)
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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](#)
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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](#)
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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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