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SUBJECT: LHS PTO Newsletter OCT 31, 2022



Weekly Newsletter • October 31, 2022

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

Upcoming Events



Oct 31–Nov 4 Week 10

- Nov 1 Senior Caregiver Group, 9am
- Nov 2 Junior Caregiver Discussion Group, 9am
- Nov 3 Parent/Caregiver Discussion Group, 9am
- Nov 3 Junior Caregiver Discussion Group, 7pm
- Nov 3 Senior Caregiver Group, 7:15pm
- Nov 4 Quarter 1 grades close
- Nov 4 **Half day** for all students

Nov 7–11 Week 11

- Nov 8 **No School:** Professional Learning Day
- Nov 9 **PTO Forum:** Parent Q&A with LHS Guidance Department, 9am, Community Center
- Nov 10 Parent/Caregiver Discussion Group Meeting with Principals Stephens and Baker, 9am (Google Meet [link](#))
- Nov 11 **No School:** Veteran's Day

Save the Date

- Nov 15 School Committee Meeting, 6pm

This year's [school calendar](#) 2022–2023

Weekly Announcements

PTO News

Welcome to Week 10!

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.

Did you know that this September alone we received 20 grant proposals? We are thrilled that LHS staff is asking for assistance to improve 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.



Upcoming PTO Forum: Q & A with LHS Counseling Department

The LHS community is invited to a Q&A with the LHS Counseling Department. This forum is sponsored by the LHS PTO.

- **When:** Wed Nov 9, 9am to 9:55am
- **Where:** Lexington Community Center

The Counseling Department invites parents to submit any questions they may have so the counselors can address them at this forum. Please fill out [this form](#) to help them put together a session that brings you the information you are looking for!

What did the LHS PTO do last week?

- **Forum Team** held first forum on *Strategies to Support Executive Functioning*
- **Hospitality Team** decorated bulletin board at entrance of the High School: Our Thankful Tree
- Started Fundraiser for **Teacher Grants**
- Prepared for **November hospitality event**
- Community **call put out for cookie donations** to support the LHS Counseling Dept pop-up event

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



LHS Football Rent-a-Player Leaf Raking Fundraiser

The LHS football players are again donating their time to help community members rake their leaves this fall. This important fundraiser will help support the team's activities and equipment. For more information, click [here](#). if you have any questions, contact [Flo Donaghy and Carol Colwell](#).

- **When:** Sat, Nov 19 (**Rain Date:** Sun, Nov 20)
- **Where:** Individual homes where leaves need to be raked
- **Sign up**[here](#) for details and to reserve your players!

Don't delay—we are almost sold out!

LPS Vaccine Clinic

Over the next two weeks, Lexington Public Schools will be hosting two vaccine clinics open to all Lexington residents and LPS staff. Both Covid-19 and flu shots will be available.

- **When and where:** Fri, Nov 4, 9-5pm, Central Offices, 146 Maple St
- **When and where:** Tue, Nov 8, 9-3pm, Harrington School, 328 Lowell St (Note location change: this particular vaccine clinic is *not* at the Central Offices)
- **Sign up** [here](#)

LHS Community News

LHS Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

- **Next Meeting:** Thu, Nov 3, 9am
- **Topic:** Transportation, Safe Routes to School, and Teen Driving, with guest speaker Susan Barrett
- **To Join:** Email [Jen Roney](mailto:Jen.Roney) with your full name, and the grade(s) of your LHS student(s)

Junior Parent and Caregiver Group

- **Next Meeting:** Wed, Nov 2, 9am *and* Thu, Nov 3 and 7pm (both sessions cover the same material)
- **Topic:** Open Discussion
- **To Join:** Sign up for the mailing list and meeting links [here](#)

Senior Parent and Caregiver Group

- **Next Meeting:** Tue, Nov 1, 9am, room 242 at the Community Center *and* Thu, Nov 3 and 7:15pm in room 230/232 at the Community Center (both sessions cover the same material)
- **Topic:** College Interviews. Tuesday's guest speaker will be Elise Niiler Rowley, and Thursday's will be Tina Webber
- **Contact** [Cynthia Pfeiffer](#) for further details
- **More event information** is available on our [Facebook group](#)

Lexington Community News



YCC's "How to Talk to Teens in 2022"

To kick off Youth Counseling Connection's 10th anniversary celebration of providing free mental health services to the youth of Lexington, the public is invited to hear "How to Talk to Teens in 2022," presented by YCC Executive Director and Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Emily Hayes. Learn strategies and approaches to help the teens in your life cope and thrive in the face of the many challenges they face. You can also tour the YCC space, hear about the Youth Advisory Board, and connect with the YCC team of Board members and wellness practitioners. YCC is a non-profit, and this event is free and open to the public.

- **When:** Thu, Nov 3. Reception: 7:00pm; Speaker: 7:30pm
- **Where:** 7 Harrington Road (located inside First Parish)
- **To register:** Click [here](#). Although not required, advanced registration is appreciated

Other Opportunities

11th annual Cool Science Artwork Competition

Cool Science is a free and public art competition held each fall for all K-12 artists, and is a collaboration between the UMass Lowell, UMass Boston, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, University of Kansas, and Kansas City Art Institute.

This year, we are asking young artists to answer one of the following challenge questions with a visual work of art:

- How might your experience with extreme temperatures be different from kids in other places around the world?
- Draw someone who is getting ready for flooding where you live.
- Draw a public transportation system (like buses & trains) that keeps working in a severe storm.

Deadline for submission: Jan 13, 2023

During this winter, we will select the best entries for display on public buses in 2023. The honorees will be recognized at our art exhibit celebrations next year.

For more information, click [here](#)

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

- 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](#)
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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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