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## Weekly Newsletter for Nov 6, 2023

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

### Upcoming Events

**“No need to hurry. No need to sparkle. No need to be anybody but oneself.”**

Virginia Woolf, *A Room Of One's Own*

*Red*

#### **Nov 6–10**

Nov 6 SHAC Mtg, 7pm, LHS Library Media Center, rm 147

Term 1 Attendance Appeals Due, 3pm

Nov 7 School Committee Mtg, 5:30pm

Nov 8 Junior Parent Group, 9am

Nov 9 Parent Discussion Group, 9am

Junior Parent Group, 7pm

Nov 10 No School: Professional Learning

#### **Nov 13–17**

#### **Week 11**

Nov 12 LHS Spiritwear Store Closes

Nov 13 Term 1 Report Cards in Aspen, 3pm

Conference Sign-ups Open

Nov 14 School Committee Mtg, 6:00pm

Nov 15 Senior Parent Group, 9am

Deadline for Lowest-Fee AP Test Registration

Nov 16 Parent Discussion Group, 9am

Nov 17 Half-day

#### **Save the date:**

Nov 22 Half-day

Nov 23–24 No School: Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov 27 No School for LHS only: Parent-Teacher Conferences

Mar 23 LHS Parent Academy

See the [2023–2024 School Calendar](#) for all of this year's holidays and half-days.

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

We welcome conversation, questions, and dialogue. Connect with us by email anytime at [president@lhspto.org](mailto:president@lhspto.org).

*Meg Khanolkar and Catherine Telliez, PTO Presidents*

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### What did the LHS PTO do last week?

- Started ***fundraiser***
  - Presidents attended ***PTO Presidents' Council meeting***
  - The Forums Team ***met with the LPS School Health Advisory Council to plan forums and workshops*** for the upcoming year
  - The Forums Team ***met with the principals*** to plan upcoming staff development and parent workshops and forums.
  - Requested cookies from parents for ***pop-up cookie event***
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## LHS PTO Needs Help Funding Programs for Your Students

The LHS PTO, with your generous support, does so much for your student and the LHS educators, but we need your help to continue supporting our amazing community.

The LHS PTO provides programming for parents by offering:

- [Forums](#) for families on requested topics
- Student activities like prom and year-specific events
- Faculty and staff appreciation through food delivery, gifts, and other surprises
- Special grant requests by our staff that enhance our students' experience

We want to continue to support all of our activities, but our LHS PTO membership enrollment is way down, supply costs are way up, and, in particular, teacher grant requests are higher than ever.

In 2022-2023, the LHS PTO awarded \$15.5K in grants. This year, we already have requests totaling \$8500! We expect the requests to double from last year, and we need your help to make sure we can support the demand.

To learn more about how this grant money is used, visit our Grants [page](#).

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

How can you help? Donate via [PayPal/Credit Card](#) or the Membership Toolkit [Store](#).

Or, mail a check to LHS PTO. 251 Waltham St. Lexington, MA 02420

***Thank you,***

***Your LHS PTO Board of Volunteers***

**Please don't hesitate to contact us at [membership@lhspto.org](mailto:membership@lhspto.org)**

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## LHS Spiritwear Store Open for a Limited Time

The LHS Spiritwear pop-up store is now open for a limited time!

- **When:** Now until Sun, Nov 12
- **Product delivery:** Dec 7-15
- **Shop [here](#)**



## Calling all PTO Bakers--Help Needed!

Martha Queenin and her Peer Leaders and Mentors are planning a surprise **cookie pop-up event** for the LHS Community.

**We need cut-out sugar cookies** for students and staff to decorate...PUMPKINS, LEAVES, HEARTS or SIMPLE ROUND COOKIES.

**We would be so grateful if parents would volunteer to help us bake cookies or donate frosting or sprinkles.**

- **When:** The morning of Wed, Nov 8 before 10:00am
  - **Where:** Drop off the cookies, frosting or decorations at the main office
  - **Sign up** to help [here](#)
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## Thank You for Stocking the Rock Room!

Martha Queenin sends out a HUGE thank you to the many LHS parents and guardians who generously helped with the Rock Room wish list! She writes:

*How exciting it has been to get so many treasures from our wish list and be able to restock our shelves with all sorts of craft supplies, storage bins, feeling wheels and supplies to help when we are feeling a bit overwhelmed. We have hosted a few "tea and talk" sessions as well as some Iblocks where we have created some amazing vision boards and collages!*

*Being able to share space with students while they decompress over a cup of tea or where they can share parts of their story through art or conversation clearly reminds me of the magical gifts that come from working with LHS young adults.*

*Truly, I am beyond grateful to be in a district that is so willing to support some of our initiatives to make LHS a gentler place.*

## LHS and LPS Announcements

### AP Registration and Attendance Appeal Deadlines Approaching

**The deadline for registering for AP exams** at the lowest possible price is fast approaching! After Nov 15, you will be charged a \$40.00 late fee *per test*. Sign up now!

- **Registration deadline:** Thu, Nov 30, 2:30pm
- **For more information** on how to register, see [the Parent Square announcement](#)

**The deadline for first quarter Attendance Appeals Forms** is also coming up!

- **Deadline:** Mon, Nov 6, 3:30pm in your Dean's Office.
  - **Forms are available** in your Dean's Office and can also be downloaded and printed [here](#)
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### LPS Vaccine Clinic

The LPS Vaccine are clinics open to all Lexington residents, along with Lexington Public Schools' students, staff and their families.

- **When:** Fri, Nov 10, 10am–5pm
- **Where:** LPS Central Offices, 146 Maple St
- **Sign up**[here](#)

## LHS Community News

### Eat at Qdoba and Support LHS Cross Country and Track and Field Teams

The LHS Cross Country and Track and Field teams will be hosting a restaurant night fundraiser at Qdoba in Lexington Center. Take a break from cooking and head to Qdoba's —you can dine-in or take out! Use our promo code, and Qdoba's will donate 25% of sales to benefit our teams in the upcoming LexGiving 5k.

- **When:** Wed, Nov 08, 4–8pm

- **Promo code:** QDOBAGIVES

## LHS Choral Department Mattress Fundraiser

Since 2011, the LHS Choral Department has run a fall mattress sale fundraiser, allowing the department to raise thousands of dollars for expenses such as workshop tuition for a cappella students, choir member apparel, space usage fees for choral performances, commissions for new musical pieces, accompanist stipends, program printing, financial aid for concert tours and more! They also sold 50 twin mattress sets that were donated to three of Boston area's homeless shelters. Join us in helping support this terrific program by getting your new mattress through our fundraiser!

These Beautyrest mattresses are brand new with full factory warranties and come in all sizes. Delivery will be available!

- **When:** Sun, Nov 12, 10:00am–4pm
- **Where:** LHS Gym
- **For more information,** contact [Catherine](#) or see our [newsletter](#)

## LEXINGTON



SEPAC / SEPTA

## LexDyslexia Parent Support Group Virtual Meetings

Our Dyslexia Parents' Group is open to Lexington parents who have a child struggling to read and/or write and who need information on how to best support them. No matter where your child is on their journey, from just starting to realize they learn differently, to having a diagnosis of dyslexia/language-based learning disability and receiving support services, please join us.

In our upcoming meeting, we'll debrief and reflect on Dr. Shaywitz's Nov 6 presentation on dyslexia (click [here](#) to register for that event, which takes place the day before our meeting).

- **Next meeting:** Tue, Nov 07, 7:00pm
- **Where:** Virtual (RSVP [here](#) for Zoom link)

## LHS Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

- **Next meeting:** Thu, Nov 9, 9am
- **Topic:** Parent-teacher conferences; Q1 post-mortem; grade-by-grade check-in
- **To join mailing list and receive meeting Zoom links:** Email your full name and the grade(s) of your LHS child(ren) to [Jen Roney](#).

## Junior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

We have two upcoming meetings:

- **Meeting #1:** Wed, Nov 8, 9am
- **Topic:** *College Admissions: Athletics* with guest speaker Sarah Flatley from Wheaton Educational Consulting
- **Meeting #2:** Thu, Nov 9, 7pm
- **Topic:** *College Admissions for the Arts* with guest speaker Shubhra Chandra

**Both meetings will be held online** (Zoom link will be sent via email and to Facebook group).

- **To join the junior parent group,** [email us](#)
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## Senior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

- **Next meeting:** Wed, Nov 15, 9am
- **Topic:** Open discussion
- **To join:** email [Julie Liu](#) with your name, email address, and the name of your senior student

## Lexington Community News



### Upcoming Holiday Youth Market!

Munroe Center for the Arts will be hosting over 20 high schoolers who will be displaying and selling their original artwork, including origami, needle-felted decorations, polymer clay bracelets, soap, ceramics and more.

In addition, you can make your own gift and/or decorate an ornament for the Town tree in Depot Square!

- **Date:** Sat, December 09, 1:00pm
  - **For more information,** visit our [website](#)
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## News from the Lexington Transportation Office

### Upcoming Transit Explorers Classes

Tired of driving your kids everywhere? They can learn how to get around independently on transit by signing up for [Transit Explorers](#) where they will learn how to navigate via Lexpress, Lexington's own local bus system, and the MBTA.

- **When:** Fri, Nov 17 (MBTA instructions) and Fri, Dec 1 (Lexpress Bus Service instructions)
- **Register**[here](#)

### Unlimited-Ride Lexpress Passes Available for \$20

Did you know you can buy a Lexpress Bus Limitless Pass online for only \$20 for unlimited rides through Jun 30, 2024? Lexpress is open to people of all ages and abilities, and youth have been a big part of Lexpress since 1979!

- **Get your pass**[online](#), or at the LHS front office (cash only at LHS).

### Student and Parent Volunteers Wanted

Want to help reduce traffic congestion and emissions at LHS and help make walking and biking safer? We're seeking parent and youth volunteers for Lexington's *Safe Routes to School* program.

- **For more information,** contact [Susan](#)
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## Youth Counseling Connection Open for Walk-ins

Youth Counseling Connection (YCC) is an independent, non-profit agency that provides accessible counseling and outreach services to Lexington youth and their families.

At YCC, youth (ages 12–22) or families can walk in and have immediate access to a therapist. This is an excellent resource for those who have had a hard time accessing services, or someone who wants to see what therapy is all about!

No fees or insurance needed.

YCC Clinical Services are confidential. All information stays within the therapy office and is only ever shared when there is a safety concern or permission is given by the family.

- **The Youth Counseling Connection center is open every Wednesday from 3:00pm–4:30pm for walk-ins**
- **We also have sessions available by appointment Monday–Thursday**
- **For more information** about YCC, please visit our [website](#)

## Community Happenings

Although this LHS PTO newsletter only publishes announcements that are directly related LHS students and their parents, we will share links to other community events that may be of interest to our readers. Click [here](#) to see this week's new announcement:

- Lexington Recreation Winter Basketball Leagues registration is now open

## Useful Links and Resources

### LHS PTO Links

- [LHS PTO Homepage](#)
- [Membership Toolkit Registration Link](#)
- [Volunteer](#)
- [LHS PTO on Facebook](#)
- [Who's on the PTO Board this year](#)
- [Other Useful Links](#)
- [LPS 2023–2024 School Calendar](#)

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### LHS Links

- LHS [School Calendar 2023–2024](#)
  - LPS [School Calendar 2023–2024](#)
  - LHS [Student Absence Form 2023–2024](#)
  - LHS [Block Schedule](#)
  - No Homework [Calendar](#)
  - LHS [Counseling Department webpage](#)
  - School Committee [webpage](#)
  - Building Committee [webpage](#)
  - LHS Building Project [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

- Athletics [games/meets](#)
  - LHS PTO [website](#) and [Facebook](#) group
  - LHS [Performing Arts Calendar](#)
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