
Weekly Newsletter for Jan 21, 2024

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

Upcoming Events



Jan 1–5

Jan 1

Jan 3

Jan 4

Jan 5

Week 18

No School: New Year's Day

Junior Parent Group, 9am

Parent Discussion Group: Mtg w/
Principals, 9am ([Google Meet link](#))

Transcript request deadline for college
applications due 2/1

Parent Discussion Group in-person social
gathering, 9am, Lexington Community Ctr,
dining room

Jan 8–12

Jan 8

Jan 9

Jan 10

Jan 11

Week 19

SHAC mtg, 7pm, LHS Library Media
Center

School Committee mtg, 8am

PTO Principal Coffee Talk open to all LHS
parents, 9–10am

Senior Parent Group, 9am

Parent Discussion Group, 9am

Save the date

Jan 15

Jan 19

No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Half-day

Forum on AI and Education, 3:30pm, IDLC
in Science Building

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.

Meg Khanolkar and Catherine Telliez, PTO Presidents



What did the LHS PTO do before the Winter Break?

- Held December **Board meeting** and holiday party
- LHS PTO presidents **met with LHS principals**
- Co-sponsored and ran the **forum on Parenting with Confidence**
- Held the "Engage and Connect" **forum with the superintendent, principals and parents**
- Delivered **cookies for Cookie Pop-up**
- Hospitality VPs **delivered gifts to all staff**, and **provided lunch and holiday gifts** for our partners in the Main office



From Chalkboards to Chatbots: A Dialogue on AI in Education

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is now everywhere, and is particularly evident in the field of education. Tools like ChatGPT, Khanmigo, Claude, and BingAI are already widely utilized by students and teachers, revolutionizing the learning and teaching experience. This evolving landscape raises crucial questions:

- **How do we effectively navigate the challenges introduced by these chatbots?**
- **How can we harness their immense potential in the field of education?**

Join us for our upcoming AI in Education Panelists Forum, where we will explore both the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in education, as well as the associated challenges and risks.

Our featured speaker is Amanda Bickerstaff, a distinguished AI expert and the Founder of AI for Education. Amanda brings over 20 years of experience in the education sector as a former high school biology teacher and EdTech executive. She will share invaluable insights on how AI is shaping the future of learning and pedagogy.

In addition, faculty members and students from LHS will share their perspectives on the use of generative AI in the classroom. Principal Baker will then lead a dynamic panel discussion with questions from our audience of teachers, students and parents.

This event provides a unique opportunity for the Lexington Public School community to exchange ideas, and gain a deeper understanding of how AI can enhance education in our community and how we can manage the associated challenges.

- **When:** Fri, Jan 19, 3:30–5:00pm
- **Where:** Lexington High School – Independent Digital Learning Center IDLC (Science Building)
- **Who:** Open to all Lexington Public School teachers, parents, caregivers, students and the Lexington community.
- **Sign up [here](#)** for in-person attendance or to receive the event recording.

LHS and LPS Announcements

LHS Counseling Department Seeks Backpack Donations

The Counseling Department at the High School organizes community service projects all year long to help our students meet their community service hour requirements for graduation. We sometimes need to use backpacks as part of projects to transport items to and from the school.

Do you have a gently used backpack, or are you able to donate a new backpack that a high school student could use? (Both [this backpack](#) or [this one](#) from Amazon would be welcome!) We need only a few, no more than 5 or 10; and they would be greatly appreciated! Donations can be sent to the LHS Counseling Department, at 251 Waltham Street, Lexington MA 02421.

- **Sign up**[here](#) to donate



Join the LEF Trivia Bee!

Teams of three (ages 15+) are invited to participate in the **annual LEF Trivia Bee**—a fun evening that brings the Lexington community together for a friendly battle of wits, all while raising funds to enhance educational excellence in Lexington Public Schools.

When: Thu, Jan 11, 7pm

Where: LHS Auditorium

For more information, click [here](#)

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, Jan 5, 12–6pm
- **Where:** LPS Central Offices, 146 Maple St
- **Sign up**[here](#)

LHS Community News

LHS Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

This week, we will have **two** meetings:

Meeting #1:

- **When:** Thu, Jan 4, 9am
- **Topic:** Meeting with the principals ([Google Meet Link](#))

Meeting #2:

- **When:** Fri, Jan 5, 9am, Community Center dining room
- **Topic:** This gathering will be purely social. Bring your own coffee and join us!

Junior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

- **Next meeting:** Wed, Jan 3, 9am

- **Topic:** Navigating Naviance
- **Where:** Online. Zoom link will be emailed before the meeting and posted on our Facebook page.
- **To join the junior parent group,** [email us](#)

Senior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

- **Next meeting:** Wed, Jan 10, 9am
- **Location:** Online
- **Topic:** Open Discussion/Q&A
- **To join:** email [Julie Liu](#) with your name, email address, and the name of your senior student

Lexington Community News



Adult and Teen Job Opportunities with Lexington Recreation Department

The Lexington Recreation and Community Programs Department is seeking to hire adults and high school students to chaperone their upcoming middle school trips held on district-wide Friday half days.

Responsibilities include: Being in the Clarke or Diamond classrooms by 11:35 to hang out with the kids until they board the bus at 12:30pm (high school students can come immediately after their 12:00 dismissal); riding the bus to the activity; watching over the middle school students to ensure they are safe, well-behaved and having fun; riding the bus back with them.

- **When:** Half-day Fridays from 11:30am–3:30/4:00pm.
- **Trips:**
 - [Nashoba Valley Tubing](#): Jan 19
 - [Altitude Trampoline Park](#): Feb 9
 - [Archery Tag](#): Mar 8
 - [Project PUTT](#): Apr 5
 - [Kimball Farm](#): May 3
 - [Treetop Adventures](#): Jun 7
- **To apply,** download the application [here](#) and send it to [Thomas Romano](#)
- **For more information,** contact [Thomas Romano](#)



Community Service Opportunity: Safe Routes to School

Lexington High School and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) are looking for LHS students interested in becoming Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Ambassadors. Help younger students and their families access safe, healthy, and equitable transportation options. By becoming an SRTS Ambassador, you can:

- Get Expert Safe Travel Training
- Gain Real-World Experience in the Transportation Planning Field
- Earn Community Service Hours Certified by SRTS

For more information on how to get involved, email Lexington's SRTS Liaison [Susan Barrett](#), or call her at 781-698-4821.

Community Happenings

Although this LHS PTO newsletter only publishes announcements that are directly related to 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 the announcements from December.

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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