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## Weekly Newsletter for Feb 12, 2024

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

### Upcoming Events



#### **Feb 12–15**

Feb 12

Feb 13

Feb 14

Feb 15

#### **Week 24**

LHS PTO Board mtg, 7pm ([Zoom link](#))

School Committee mtg, 6pm

Junior Parent Counseling Dept Event,  
9am, LHS Library Media Center

Parent Discussion Group mtg, 9am  
Class of 2028 Incoming 9th Grade Parent  
Night, 6pm, LHS Auditorium

#### **Feb 19–23**

#### **No School: February Break**

#### **Feb 26–Mar 1 Week 25**

Feb 26

Feb 27

Feb 28

Feb 29

LHS Site Council mtg, 6pm, online

School Committee mtg, 6pm

Forum: Going to LHS

Junior Parent Group mtg, 9am

Parent Discussion Group mtg, 9am  
Spring Athletic Preseason mtg, 6pm, LHS  
auditorium

Junior Parent Group mtg, 7pm

#### **Save the Date:**

Mar 6

Mar 21

Mar 23

LHS Community Forum #3, 6:30pm, Cary  
Hall

Forum: Navigating Life after LHS

LPS Parent Academy

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

# 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*



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

- Presidents attended the PTO Presidents Council meeting
- Prepared for Feb 12 Board meeting
- Hosted a taco lunch for LHS faculty and staff
- Installed a winter-themed bulletin board at the entrance of the high school
- Presidents met with school staff to plan for Step-Up Day for 8th graders
- Mini-grants VPs met to discuss new ideas for next year
- Presidents met with LPS Green Team
- Presidents met with the LHS Counseling Department to discuss Step-Up Day for 8th graders



### A "Thank You!" from the LHS PTO Board

We want send out a huge "Thank you!" to all our members and donors for helping us raise \$6083.00 so we can award additional mini-grants to LHS educators. So far this year, your generous donations have allowed us to fund the inspiring, innovative projects and activities of twelve LHS teachers, and will allow us to award more mini-grants in a third round of applications at the end of March. Stay tuned to hear more about the grants awarded to our LHS educators!

## LHS and LPS Announcements

### LHS Spring 2024 Athletics Preseason Meeting is Coming Up!

The Spring 2024 Athletic Preseason Meeting is coming up! This meeting is for all LHS student-athletes interested in participating in an interscholastic spring sport at Lexington High School. Students should attend with a parent or guardian. The large group session begins in the auditorium, 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 about the upcoming season.

- **Online Registration opened Mon, Feb 5**
- **The preseason meeting is Thu, Feb 29, 6pm**
- **The spring season begins Mon, Mar 18**

**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.

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*Beyond the Logistics of Post-Secondary Planning*

Join The LHS Counselors to Discuss Strategies on  
How to Support Your Students in the  
Post-Secondary Process

When: Wednesday, February 14th 9AM-10AM

Where: Library Media Center LHS



## LHS Counseling Department Event for Juniors and their Parents/Guardians

The Counseling Department will host a **Junior Parent/Guardian Gathering** entitled *Beyond the Logistics of Post-Secondary Planning*. This event is for junior parents, caregivers, and counselors to meet and discuss how to support each other and their students during this time of excitement, anticipation and transition. See our [flyer](#) for more details.

- **When:** Wed, Feb 14, 9–10am
  - **Where:** LHS Library Media Center
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## Upcoming Course Scheduling Dates

It's that time of year when students in grades 8, 9, 10 and 11 begin the course registration process. Here are some dates to help keep you and your student on track:

- **Month of February:** Teachers confer with students about course recommendations
- **Up to Feb 27:** Teachers enter placements in Aspen
- **Feb 27–Mar 4:** Students enter elective course requests
- **Mar 15:** Placement review forms due (if necessary)
- **Month of March:** Academic advising with counselors
- **Apr 2:** Course verification sheet published in Aspen

For more detailed information, see the Counseling Department's ParentSquare Announcement [here](#). You can also see the LHS Program of studies [here](#) and the LHS Scheduling webpage [here](#).

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## Job Opportunity: AP Proctors Still Needed

LHS needs proctors for the Advanced Placement Exams for this coming May. This work is compensated, and the schedule is flexible—you choose the days and times that work best for you.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, and have a current CORI check on file with the district.

- **When:** AP testing dates between May 6–17
- **If interested, fill out [this google form](#)** by Feb 12
- **For more information,** click [here](#), or email [Danielle](#)

### Compensation is as follows:

- AP Regular Time Exams (2–5 hours) \$140.00
- AP World Language Exams (4+hours) \$200
- AP Extended 50% Time (2–6 hours) \$200
- Floater (7:15-3:15) \$175

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

- **Next meeting:** Thu, Feb 15, 9am
- **Topic:** *Standardized Testing Overview*
- **To join the mailing list and receive meeting Zoom links:** Email your full name and the grade(s) of your LHS child(ren) to [Jen Roney](#).

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## Junior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

After February break, we'll have **TWO** meetings, each on a different topic

### Meeting #1:

- **When:** Wed, Feb 28, 9am
- **Where:** TBD
- **Topic:** Bring your questions for a group discussion!

### Meeting #2

- **When:** Thu, Feb 29, 7pm
- **Where:** Online (Zoom link will be posted to Facebook group and emailed)
- **Topic:** *Holistic Admissions at US Colleges*, with guest speaker Cece Camacho, Admissions Officer, Bates College

To join the junior parent group, [email us](#)

## Lexington Community News



### Break the Silence: A Creative Submission Contest

The Youth Advisory Board (YAB) of the Youth Counseling Connection (YCC) is a group of Lexington high school students devoted to improving awareness of teen mental health and access to mental health resources in the Lexington community.

This year, the YAB is organizing a youth creative submission contest called "Break the Silence," where middle and high school students may enter a piece of artwork, poetry, song lyrics, personal essay, or short story based on the prompt "*An Insider Look into the Teenage Mind*." The goal of the creative submission is to empower teenagers and promote teen mental health awareness.

The community will be invited to read and admire the students' creative submissions at an annual fundraising event on May 3. Further details will be shared closer to the event date. During the event, a winner will be chosen in each category—poetry, art and prose—for both middle and high school. The event will also feature a panel of students and experts who will discuss the importance of recognizing teen mental health.

- More information and the entry form are [here](#).

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## Nominations Sought for the 2024 Pat Flynn Outstanding Youth Award

The Pat Flynn Outstanding Youth Award showcases our youth and their excellence. Every year since 1979, this award has honored an outstanding youth resident on Patriots' Day.

This award is designed to applaud a graduating Lexington senior who has committed themselves to community service in Lexington, acknowledging their commitment and service to our town.

The award highlights their dedication to community service, along with leadership capabilities and academic standing.

- **Nominate someone**[here](#)
- **Submissions are due** by Mar 3



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## Summer Camp and Counselor/Volunteer Opportunities at Munroe Center for the Arts

Are you a high schooler interested in joining the Munroe Center for the Arts for a full week, Monday through Friday, as a camp counselor or volunteer this summer? Contact our Operations Coordinator, [Holly](#), for more information and to submit a resume/extracurriculars list.

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## Upcoming Webinar Recommended by SHAC

LHS School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) wants to make families aware of an upcoming event provided by the Lexington Department of Recreation and Community Programs and the Lexington Human Services Department:

### Let's Talk Healthy Relationships

Relationships directly affect our health and happiness. All relationships go through challenges, but it can be hard to recognize when it is time to let go or intervene.

Join us for a free educational session with Gabriela Wells, a licensed social worker and domestic violence advocate from The Second Step. Listen in with us as we learn how to spot the warning signs of a relationship that needs help. With this updated information, you can empower yourself to be an ally for family members and friends, and be a good community member by understanding the cycles of unhealthy relationships and how to interrupt them.

- **When:** Tue, Feb 13, 7pm
- **Where:** Online ([Zoom link](#))
- **Register**[here](#) or call 781-698-4840

## 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 learn more about these upcoming opportunities.

- Film screening of *Repairing the World*
- Lexplorations 2024 registration is now open
- Munroe Center for the Arts Counselor-in-Training opportunity for rising 7th–9th graders

## 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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