



Weekly Newsletter for Mar 18, 2024

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

Upcoming Events

“Optimism is a happiness magnet. If you stay positive, good things and good people will be drawn to you.”

MARY LOU RETTON

- Mar 18–22 **Week 28****
- Mar 18 Community Input mtg on pool, performing arts ctr, and field house in new LHS, 11am ([Zoom link](#))
Public mtg (*evening option*) w/ School Committee on proposed LPS calendar changes, 5:30pm ([Zoom link](#))
- Mar 20 Public mtg (*morning option*) w/ School Committee on proposed LPS calendar changes, 8am ([Zoom link](#))
- Mar 21 Parent Discussion group mtg, 9am
Forum: *Navigating Life After LHS*, 7pm, LHS Auditorium
- Mar 21–27 9th Grade academic advising
- Mar 23 Lexington Parent Academy, 10am–2:15pm, Community Center
- Mar 25–29 **Week 29****
- Mar 25 LHS Site Council mtg, 6pm
- Mar 26 School Committee mtg, 6pm
- Mar 26–27 10th Grade ELA MCAS
- Mar 27 Senior Parent Group mtg, 9am, Community Center
- Mar 28 Parent Discussion Group, 9am
- Mar 29 No School: Good Friday
- Save the Date:**
- Apr 8 Forum: *Practical AI for Education*, 6:30pm, Lexington High School Library

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

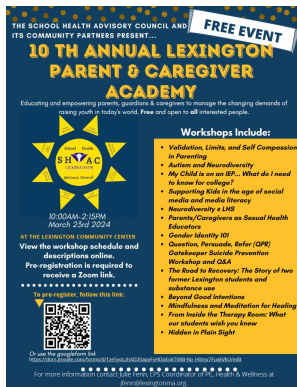
We welcome conversation, questions, and dialogue. Connect with us by email anytime at president@lhspto.org.

Meg Khanolkar and Catherine Telliez, PTO Presidents



What did the LHS PTO do last week?

- Hosted hospitality event—bagels from "Wicked Bagel" for the LHS faculty and staff
- Prepared for next week's forum: *Navigating Life After LHS*
- Prepared for next week's co-sponsored forum: Lexington Parent Academy



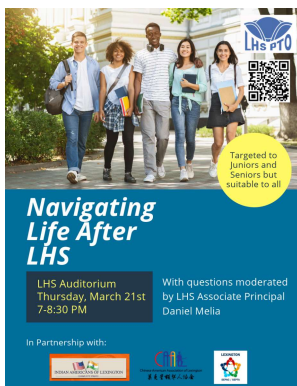
10th Annual Parent & Caregiver Academy

10th Annual Parent & Caregiver Academy

Lexington's Annual Parent Academy is designed to educate and empower parents and caregivers to manage the changing demands of parenting in today's world. This event is free and open to all interested parents and community members, and you can choose up to three workshops that you can attend throughout the day!

Although registration is not required, we encourage you to register to secure a space in the workshops you are interested in attending. Several of the workshops have limited spaces.

- **Who:** All interested Lexington families, adult caregivers and faculty
- **When:** Sat, Mar 23, 10am–2:15pm
- **Where:** In-person at the Community Center
- **Register and view presenters and workshop descriptions [here](#)**
- **Questions?** Contact [Julie Fenn](#)



Upcoming Forum: Navigating Life after LHS

Mark your calendars and join us for *Navigating Life After LHS*, a tailored forum for Juniors and Seniors entering the next chapter of their lives. Discover career paths, conquer transition challenges, and connect with peers on similar journeys. Your guide to navigating life beyond high school begins here!

- **When:** Mar 21, 7–8:30pm
- **Where:** LHS Auditorium



Save the Date: Practical AI for Education

Join us for a dynamic 90-minute forum, *Practical AI for Education* with Dr. Lilach Mollick, featuring a presentation followed by an interactive Q&A. This engaging event will demystify Large Language Models (LLMs) by exploring how they work, discussing ethical considerations, and examining the potential benefits and risks of AI in learning environments. Topics include:

Transforming Teaching and Learning with AI: Discover how AI can revolutionize education. Through extensive demonstrations across various AI models, we'll showcase practical tools and strategies.

Navigating the AI Landscape: We understand the importance of equipping parents and educators with the knowledge to guide students in navigating the digital world. This session will offer insights into how AI can be used responsibly and effectively to support teaching and learning.

- **When:** Mon, Apr 8, 6:30–8:00pm
- **Where:** Lexington High School Library
- **Who:** Open to LPS students, parents, caregivers, teachers and the Lexington community
- **Sign up** [here](#) for this in-person event

LHS and LPS Announcements

Share Your Thoughts: Field House, Performing Arts Center and Pool

To allow community members to voice their views, anyone interested in advocating for a pool, field house, or state-of-the-art performing arts center in the new or renovated LHS should submit a video presentation to the [Superintendent of Schools](#) no later than Mon, Mar 18.

We will host two virtual meetings to discuss and/or hear from members of the community on the pros and cons of a (1) pool; (2) new field house; and (3) state-of-the-art performing arts center. The Superintendent will host the virtual meetings that will be scheduled just prior to our School Building Committee meetings on:

- Mon, Mar 18, 11am–12pm
- Mon, Mar 25, 11am–12pm
- Zoom link [here](#)
- For more details on submitting a video or voicing your view, see Dr. Hackett's ParentSquare announcement [here](#)

Potential School Calendar Changes

The School Committee is considering changing the school calendar to better reflect the diverse holidays celebrated by various groups in our community, and will hold two public discussions on the issue.

- **To see the questions being considered,** see the ParentSquare announcement [here](#)
- **Meeting #1:** Mon, Mar 18, 5:30pm
- **Meeting #2:** Wed, Mar 20, 8am
- **Zoom link** [here](#)

LPS Seeks Core Values Award Nominations

On Tue, May 14, Lexington Public Schools will be holding its second LPS Core Values Celebration night at 4 p.m. in the Central Office Gymnasium! If you know of someone in our school community who has consistently demonstrated one of our core values, it's

time for this award to acknowledge their efforts and contributions by filling out the [core values nomination form](#). Also, please keep in mind that if you submit a nomination, you must wait for confirmation from the Office of the Superintendent. If your application is approved, we also ask that you plan to attend the May 14th celebration, along with the person you are nominating. Be prepared to introduce your nominee with a very brief (2-3 minute) speech to honor that special person. It will be an exciting and joyful celebration of students, staff, families, and community members who make a difference in our school community every day, and we can't wait to see you there!



Congratulations to Principal Andrew Baker!

The PTO extends its congratulations to Principal Andrew Baker, who has accepted the permanent position of Principal of Lexington High School. Mr. Baker began his career in Lexington as a high school English teacher, and he has been an important part of our LHS community for the past 19 years, serving in a variety of positions. The PTO looks forward to many more years of fruitful collaboration with Principal Baker and his team!



Donations Needed for All-Night Graduation Party

The LHS All-Night Graduation Party will be held on Sun, Jun 2, 10pm–5am in the LHS Field House. This popular, senior class all-night event is a tradition at LHS and has something for everyone: DJ, dancing, games, casino, food, photo booth, chill-out zone, crafts area, video games and a surprise ending that you don't want to miss!

Your monetary donations will make this massive event possible! Thank you for [donating here](#).



LHS Performing Arts Department to host Sara Jean Ford

Join the LHS Performing Arts Department as they present [Sara Jean Ford](#), star of Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera* and *CATS*, in her one-woman concert, *The Aging Ingenue*.

- **When:** Sat, Apr 6, 7:00pm
- **Where:** LHS Auditorium
- **Purchase tickets** [here](#)

LHS Community News

LHS Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

- **Next meeting:** Thu, Mar 21, 9am
 - **Topic:** Parent panel on *LHS Performing Arts*
 - **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

- **Next meeting:** Mon, Apr 4, 7pm
- **Topic:** Parent panel on *Taking a Gap Year*

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

- **Next meeting:** Wed, Mar 27, 9am
- **Location:** Community Center, Dining Room
- **Topic:** *Making Final College Decisions* with Sharon Olofsson of Gateway Educational Consulting
- **To join:** email [Julie Liu](#) with your name, email address, and the name of your senior student

Lexington Community News

Open Registration for BUDA Ultimate Frisbee Spring Session

BUDA youth frisbee offers fun and competitive frisbee, and will be holding a spring session for grades 9-12 at the Diamond. Ultimate Frisbee is a non-contact sport that encourages a lot of running and teamwork. Instead of referees, players are encouraged to learn the rules and make their own calls.

Whether you're totally new to the sport or an accomplished young player, our coaches will work with you to make sure you have fun and learn skills and strategy for the sport of Ultimate.

Our youth programs use "call your own fee." At checkout, you indicate the right fee for you. We love having new players and don't want finances to stand in the way of young people learning and playing the sport.

- **When:** Every Sunday, Apr 21–Jun 2, 5:30–7:30pm
- **Where:** Diamond Middle School fields
- **Register**[here](#)
- **For more information,** contact [Raphael Savir](#)



Student Volunteer Opportunity with Lexplorations!

Calling all students who are rising sophomores or older! **Earn community service hours this summer** by working as a student aide with Lexplorations, Lexington Community Education's summer program for children. You must commit to working a minimum of one full week to be considered. Space is limited—apply now!

- **When:** Weekly programs run Jul 1–Aug 9
- **Where:** Harrington Elementary School
- **To apply or for more information** visit our [website](#)

Patriots' Day Youth Sunrise Parade: Earn Volunteer Hours

Come on out and let the town know about your non-profit organization by marching in the Sunrise Youth Parade on Patriots' Day! Make your banners and carry them in the through the center of town and onto the Battle Green for all to see and learn about your organization.

High School students are eligible for community service hours for their participation.

- **When:** Mon, Apr 15
 - **Time:** Line up by 7:15am, step off at 7:30a
 - **Where:** Line up at Cary Memorial Building Driveway
 - **For more information and to register,** click [here](#)
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Upcoming Events with Safe Routes to School

The *Safe Routes to School* (SRTS) office has several upcoming community events:

Webinar: New Tools for School

- When: Tue, Apr 23, 3–4pm
- Where: Online (Zoom link [here](#))

May is *Bike Month, Mode Shift May, and Mental Health month*...all which are related! There are many events planned, such as the free Bike Rodeo and other events you can find [here](#).

We're looking for LHS students to become Safe Routes to School 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, click [here](#) or 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 learn more about these upcoming opportunities.

- Lawn sign hosting for Cary Library's *Take Flight* Gala
- Additional information on BUDA Ultimate Frisbee

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](#)

LHS Links

- Lexington High 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](#)

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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