



Weekly Newsletter for Apr 8, 2024

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

Upcoming Events



Apr 8–12

Apr 8

Apr 9

Apr 10

Apr 11

Apr 12–22

Apr 15–19

Apr 22–26

Apr 23

Apr 24

Apr 25

Apr 30

May 2

Week 31

Forum: Practical AI for Education, 6:30pm, Lexington High School Library

Deadline for Q3 attendance appeals

Deadline for corrections to Course Verification Sheets

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

Senior Parent Group mtg, 9am

Parent Discussion Group mtg, 9am

Homework break

April Break

Week 32

School Committee mtg, 6pm

Senior Parent Group mtg, 9am

Parent Discussion Group, 9am

Save the Date:

Forum: Youth Substance Use Prevention, 7pm, LHS Library Media Center, rm 149

LHS Bldg Project Community Forum #4, 6:30pm, Cary Hall and online

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?

- Presidents attended PTO Presidents Council meeting
- Prepared for next week's forum: *Practical AI for Education*
- Mini Grants committee voted on last round of grants
- Prepared for next week's PTO Board meeting
- Delivered cake from Sweet Thyme to congratulate the Principals and Dean on their permanent appointments (The PTO thanks Sweet Thyme for opening their store on a day they are usually closed just to make this cake!)
- Continued recruiting for next year's PTO Board



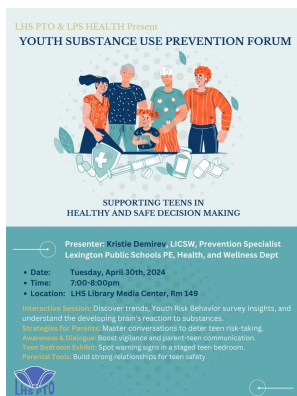
This Monday: Practical AI for Education

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 (the technology behind ChatGPT and similar AI-driven interfaces) 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
- **Preview:** [Wharton Interactive Crash Course: Practical AI](#)
- **Sign up** [HERE](#) for this in-person event



Forum: Youth Substance Use Prevention

Parents and Adult Caregivers—Come join this interaction session to learn about current trends in youth substance use, review the Lexington Youth Risk Behavior Survey data, and understand the science behind the developing brain and the impact of substance use. We'll focus on providing strategies parents can use to prevent risky behaviors and to talk with their children.

We'll also feature the **“Hidden in Plain Sight” Teen Mockup Bedroom**, featuring items that could be signs a teen is engaging in substance use, as well as a display of the current devices we are seeing amongst our youth.

Presenter Kristie Demirev is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker and the Prevention Specialist for Lexington Public Schools' PE, Health and Wellness Dept.

- **When:** Tue, Apr 30, 7–8:00pm
- **Where:** LHS Library Media Center, rm 149



Volunteer at the LHS Credit for Life Fair

Join us in empowering the next generation with the financial literacy skills essential for their success. We invite passionate volunteers to the *Credit for Life* fair at LHS, where you'll play a key role in teaching students about financial management through engaging simulations.

Why Volunteer?

- **Impact Lives:** Guide students through the complexities of personal finance.
- **Share Your Passion:** Connect with students on crucial topics like budgeting and credit use.
- **Flexible Involvement:** We provide materials; you bring your interest or expertise. No deep financial knowledge required!

We need 25–35 volunteers for various booths, including Education and Training, Health and Wellness, and Transportation, among others.

- **When:** Fri, Jun 7, 8:00–11:30am
- **Where:** LHS Field House
- **Sign-up** [here](#)
- **Snacks, drinks, and lunch provided!**

Together, let's prepare our students to confidently manage their finances!

LHS and LPS Announcements

This Wednesday: Come Hear Award-Winning LHS Chamber Orchestra!

The LHS Chamber Orchestra is officially one of the **best high school string orchestras in the nation!** After placing second at the ASTA National Orchestra Festival, many have asked if they would play their award-winning orchestra program again for the LHS community. This Wednesday is your chance to hear them!

- **When:** Wed, Apr 10 at 1:20pm sharp. Arrive early, and sign in at the main office.
- **Where:** LHS Auditorium

LHS Site Council Election

The Lexington High School Site Council is seeking two high school parent candidates to serve a three-year term starting in the 2024–2025 school year.

The purpose of the School Site Council is to work collaboratively with the principal to develop school improvement plans consistent with system-wide goals and student performance standards set by the Massachusetts Board of Education. Council members help plan ways to meet the diverse learning needs of students; establish a school climate of tolerance and respect for every individual; involve parents in the life of the school; impact safety and discipline; enhance extracurricular activities, and more. The Council is composed of five LHS parents, five faculty, two community representatives, three students, and the principal.

For more information, you can check out the Site Council [webpage](#). Please note the role of the parent representative on the school council is to serve and support the high school and it is not a position associated with the PTO.

- **Candidate Eligibility:** Parents and guardians who will have a child/children enrolled at LHS continuously from 2024–2027 are eligible to apply (this includes parents of current 8th grade students).
- **Deadline to apply** is end of the day Fri, Apr 26
- **Questions? Want to apply?** [Email us](#) and include the following information:

- o Your first and last name
- o Your child/children's name, grade, and school (we won't post this information, but will use this to help verify that you will be eligible for the full 3 year term). [example: John Doe, gr 10, LHS; Jane Doe, gr 8, Clarke]
- o Brief description on why you are interested in the role and any experience(s) you feel is relevant to the role (limit of 200 words). This description will be used in the event an election is triggered.

Will there be an election? If three or more candidates apply, the PTO will facilitate an election and results will be released after votes are tabulated and verified. All rising 9–12th grade LHS parents will be eligible to vote.

2024–2025 School Calendar Released

The School Committee unanimously approved a new calendar for the 2024–2025 school year, which will now include school closures for Diwali, Eid, and Lunar New Year. In addition, schools will be open for a half day on Good Friday, and the Friday before Labor Day will be a full school day, which are both changes to past practice. A full calendar with parent/teacher conference dates will be available soon. Many thanks to the Calendar Working Group for all of their efforts.

- Click [here](#) for the new calendar
-

LPS Updated Respiratory Illness Guidelines

Lexington Public Schools has released an updated document with guidance for students with respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19.

- Click [here](#) to review the document
-

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, Apr 26, 3–5pm
 - **Where:** LPS Central Offices, 146 Maple St
 - **Sign up**[here](#)
-

LHS Community News



FOLMADS Parent and Student Volunteer Opportunity

FOLMADS, the parent volunteer organization supporting LPS performing and visual arts, needs your help at upcoming performing arts events. We're in search of parent volunteers for ticket sales and ushering. High school students can be ushers.

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

LHS Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group (all grades)

- **Next meeting:** Thu, Apr 11, 9am
- **Topic:** Debrief of *Practical AI in Education* forum followed by open Q&A and discussion. We will also be answering any parent questions about the upcoming AP testing season.
- **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](#).

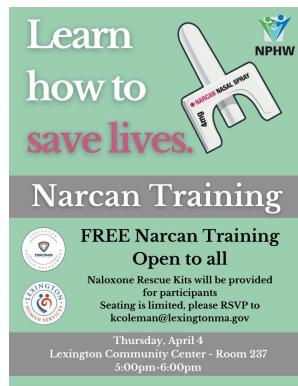
Junior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

- **Next meeting:** Wed, Apr 24, 9am
- **Location:** Community Center, rm 240
- **Topic:** *College Admissions Questions* featuring a parent panel
- **To join the junior parent group,** [email us](#)

Senior Parent and Caregiver Discussion Group

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

Lexington Community News



Narcan Training: Learn how to Save Lives

SHAC (The LHS School Health Advisory Committee), Lexington Human Services and the Lexington Public Health Department have joined forces to offer free Narcan training that is open to all. Naloxone Rescue Kits (Narcan nasal spray) will be provided for participants. Seating is limited, so please [email us](#) to RSVP.

- **When:** Thu, Apr 4, 5-6pm
- **Where:** Community Center, rm 237
- **RSVP** [here](#)

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.

- Please share your opinion in the town's Waste Collection Survey
- Cary Lecture Series presents a free talk with Award-winning Economist Raj Chetty

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](#)
-