

Dear LHS Family,

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday week and a Happy New Year! It's hard to imagine that we are almost half-way through the school year already! Thanks again to all the holiday elves that planned, prepared and served for our holiday luncheon before break - it was a very special LHS Staff Family event! Plus those ugly sweaters made it even more fun:) I know our students enjoyed seeing us get in the holiday spirit.

There is much to look forward to in the New Year! Together we will continue to build a strong school culture and climate, commit to timely feedback and consistent communication, and as always a continued focus on teaching and learning. Our students need our attention, commitment and support. The positive relationships built between teachers and students is one of the single most predictors of student motivation and success. What you do in your classroom matters every single day! Just importantly, every staff member makes a difference in building a positive school culture and climate which is critical so that students (and all staff) feel like they belong and we care about them. Thanks for making our students the highest priority in all we do!

SHOUT OUT:

Members of the **International Language Club** at Lowell High School participated in their annual Gifts for Greenhalge program, raising enough money to buy Christmas presents for all kindergarten students at the Greenhalge elementary school. For the 14th year in a row, students were treated to piñatas, snacks, and a surprise visit from Santa.



LHS students above:

Adjoa Adjepong
Grace Branco
Sara Brick
Nicole Bula
Sianna Burgos
Abby Cousineau
Kelly Dam
Elisa Eng

Idalisse Fernandez
Natalie Ferreira
Caetryn Gilreath
Jenielle Guerrier
Ola Hameed
Iva Keo
Kaily Khin
Nathalie Kim
Monika Matsui
Marida Meas

Alicia Muth
Brian Nguyen
Nysay Nhan
Bryanna Pouv
Zahraa Pyriadi
Melanie Sinn
Lana Soth
Alex Subleka
Karina Tenus
Maylee You



Kindergarten student Prince Adams Musiige is all smiles as he receives his gift from Santa (Brian Nguyen), Mrs. Claus (Sara Brick), and Elf (Sianna Burgos).

Congratulations to the work of our **Generation Citizen** students who were recognized by Congressman Moulton who is interested in our students' work. All of our students in all of their projects are passionate about making a change in our community and the larger world. The students looking at community health are a great example of that. Since Congressman Moulton showed an interest, Rob DeLossa has offered to share all the work our students have been involved in and passionate about. It's very special for our students and school to get this recognition - thanks especially to Rob's leadership in this area of great pride for LHS!

NEWS TO SHARE:

JDCU - In December, the LHS branch of JDCU ran a contest. Students wished their favorite LHS Staff or faculty member a happy holiday. If selected, the student and their pick would win a prize.

They had over 350 entries into our contest and narrowed it down to top 5. Our students selected two winners:

***Kirk Czelowicz**, nominated by **Tatiana Toro-Rios** with the message: "I want to wish Kirk from Security a happy holiday for always having faith in me, and always motivating me to do better."

***Ann Bienvenue**, nominated by **Courtney Mayer** with the message: "I want to wish Mrs. Bienvenue a happy holiday because she never fails to make my class entertaining and she's the teacher I trust the most."

JDCU states ... In the spirit of the holidays, we wanted to share the heartfelt well-wishes from your students. They are being distributed to your house mailboxes. Congrats to Kirk and Ann for well-deserved recognition from our students!

The National Honor Society has good news - they have raised \$1500 to contribute to the Ernie Descheneaux Memorial Scholarship! This is fantastic news, thanks to all of our students for making this happen - LHS Pride!

Thanks to **Lyn Blouin** from the career center who collaborated with Macy's on a hiring initiative for our students. They informed Lyn that many of the students who applied were hired! Although Macy's was unable to provide transportation this year, there is talk about a shuttle from LHS next year - so next year will be even better.

Student Engagement - please see the attached article on some ideas to consider regarding student engagement... a long but worthwhile article describing how to keep them showing up for class each day!

http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/classroom_qa_with_larry_ferlazzo/2014/12/response_the_best_ways_to_engage_students_in_learning.html

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2018

1/2	Tuesday	School Re-opens
1/3	Wednesday	Coffee and Conversation with LHS Parents 7:30am HOS Conference Rm.
1/4 through 2/7	Wednesday	ACCESS Testing window open - ELL Students
1/5 and 1/6	Thurs/Fri	Student theater production of "The Dining Room" in the Burgoyne Theatre
1/8	Monday	Friends of Lowell High School Meeting 7:00pm Little Theatre
1/10	Wednesday	Early Release - Jessica Minnehan Presentation 12:30-2:30pm Auditorium
1/11	Thursday	Winter Dance Concert 7:00pm Auditorium
1/13	Saturday	Mill City Show Choir Festival
1/15	Monday	No School, Martin Luther King Day
1/16-1/19	Tues-Friday	Mid-Year Assessments (See Amy's email dated 12/12 for more info)
1/22	Monday	Marking Period 3 begins
1/24	Wednesday	Grades due at 7:50am
1/30	Tuesday	Semester 1 Report Cards distributed in Advisory

As always, keep sharing all the great things that are happening at LHS so I can share them in my weekly memo. Stay warm and enjoy all the new beginnings 2018 has to offer!

Best,
Marianne

PS We have some pretty amazing things going on at our school on a daily basis; this list only captures the tip of the iceberg... feel free to add to the list and we can keep it going!

Ten (out of many) standouts from the 2017-2018 School Year (so far)

1. #Kindness Matters at LHS
2. Lowell High Mill Market
3. Fundraisers for Puerto Rico totaling approximately \$1800.00
4. Brian Martin Distinguished Alumni
5. Unity T-Shirts
6. Amazing new hires
7. Our improved and snazzy website
8. MCAS participation rate at 95% in all groups for all three tests
9. First all day professional development day
10. Monday Memos