

Good evening LHS family,

Despite the recent days off from snow, we remain focused on preparing students for the upcoming MCAS test, AP testing in May, the end of the marking period where grades close on 4/4, and much, much more! Spring officially arrives this week, at least according to the calendar and the longer hours of light at the end of the day.

As mentioned, students are planning to #WALKOUTFORPEACE this coming Wednesday. I did send out a detailed list of questions and answers about the event which I've updated and attached. Please remember this is a student driven event. Our role is to ensure students remain safe and any student that decides to stay behind in class is allowed to do so without any repercussions or comments from staff or other students.

We are still considering an opportunity/forum for students to share their concerns and questions about school safety. As you know we had previously scheduled a student forum, but again that was cancelled due to weather. I will keep you up-to-date on future plans for this type of student event in the future.

Our staff discussion on school safety is still planned for Monday immediately after school in the Burgoyne Theatre. Please feel free to come for all or part of the hour.

Also coming up this week are Administrative Leadership days - each admin will attend on either all day Tues. or Weds.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our students recently presented at the Business Professionals of America Conference - congratulations to Jill and her team for making this possible for our students!

Ready for the Opening Session of the State Leadership Conference at the Sheraton Tara in Framingham, Lowell Chapter members attending included:

(Front L-R) Serena Williams, Chapter President Victoria Franco, Treasurer Samuel Pring, Historian Victoria Ortiz-Kim, Secretary Maureen Mathenge (Back L-R) Tyra Sou, Advisor Jill Taylor, Justice LaPlante, Parliamentarian Anthony Roewn, Advisor Wayne Taylor



Sophomore Justice LaPlante shows off his hard work for his First Place in Banking & Finance, Second Place in Fundamental Accounting, and Fifth Place in Personal Financial Management. With these awards, Justice is eligible to attend the National Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas in May.

Junior Victoria Ortiz-Kim placed Second in the first round of competition for Extemporaneous Speech!



The Air Force Honor Guard from Washington, D.C. has chosen LHS to give a performance to our cadets and teachers/faculty. This event will take place in the Auditorium from 9 a.m. – 10:30 on Monday, March 19th. Please feel free to attend if you are available.

The Air Force Drill Team promotes the Air Force mission by showcasing drill performances at public and military venues. In all they do, the Drill Team personifies the integrity, discipline, teamwork and professionalism of every Airman and every Air Force mission.

Throughout the years, the Drill Team has worked with the Air Force Recruiting Service to provide presence in hundreds of locations. The team tours various Air Force bases and community events across the globe, as well as providing performances to thousands visiting the Nation's Capital at various national monuments.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Special thanks to staff members Nicholas Rossetti, Kathryn Ronan, Julio Carvalho, Stephen Gervais and Rafael Quiles for their roles in making the TEA Fellows experience memorable in all ways. The TEA fellows gave LHS high marks for welcoming them and give them "life changing personal and professional experiences" per AJ Angulo, Professor Ed at UMass Lowell who managed the program. He also said, the TEA fellows returned to their respective countries on Monday, March 12. They enjoyed the hospitality of LHS staff members and students. They left a little "sad" because they were not able to say goodbye to LHS community because the snow storm. Thanks also to some of you who also welcomed them into your classroom!



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Congratulations to Samil Blanco from Faye O'Leary's Graphic Design Class for winning honorable mention in this year's poster project. He will be recognized at the April 4th School Committee meeting.

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2018 Poster Project Winner



Congratulations to **Bre Gutheil** from **Nashoba Valley Technical High School** for designing the winning poster, **HUMAN**, for this year's Poster Project Contest.

This year's theme was **Be the Change**. This theme is about challenging students to step out of their comfort zone to make their schools and communities better places to live and learn. Individually, and collectively, we have tremendous power to create positive change in our lives and the lives of others.

A multidisciplinary panel of judges composed of school superintendents, police chiefs, principals, school resource officers, art teachers, guidance counselors and students, selected one winning poster and three honorable mention winners from a pool of 191 posters. The selection process was difficult because there were so many excellent posters from very talented students.

Honorable Mentions:

- Yesica Chacon Portillo from Everett High School, "*Accept Who We Are*"
- Samil Blanco from Lowell High School, "*Be the Positive Change*"
- Zach Olden from Minuteman Career and Technical High School, "*Equality for All*"

Congrats to Brian Terrero-Batista, a junior at LHS, who was interviewed by the Lowell Sun because of his encounter with Wyclef Jean, the three-time Grammy award winner. I'm sure you may have seen him around school with his guitar! Follow the link for more details...

http://www.lowellsun.com/todayshadlines/ci_31720135/something-magical-that-draws-you

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

3/19	Mon	Air Force Honor Guard 9:00-10:30am Auditorium
3/19	Mon	Afterschool staff conversation on safety - 2:30-3:30pm Burgoyne Theatre
3/21	Weds	Student Walkout for Peace 10:00-10:17am
3/21	Weds	Parent/Teacher Open House 2:30-4:30pm
3/26	Mon	Community Action Forum #2 5:30-8:00pm Community Health Center
4/27 and 4/28	Fri/Sat	Mary Poppins

Have a good week everyone!

Best,
Marianne



Marianne E. Busted
Head of School
Lowell High School

STUDENT #WALKOUTFORPEACE Rescheduled to Wednesday 3/21 10-10:17am

There are two important words that I would like you to keep in mind for the walkout -

SAFETY AND FLEXIBILITY!

Q. Why are we supporting this walkout?

A. We believe and support students' right to free speech and the opportunity to participate and learn from civic engagement. This was a nationwide walkout, which was rescheduled in the Northeast. Our students want to be part of making their voice be heard in regard to school safety. We are supporting our students by making sure they have a safe and peaceful event.

Q. How many SRO's will be covering the High School during this event?

A. All the SRO's (7) in the district will be at the High School. Other officers will be assigned to the LeBlanc, Career Academy and Middle Schools.

Q. Where will students walkout to?

A. Students will exit the building as they normally would for a fire drill. The police will have either end of Fr. Morrisett Blvd. blocked off from traffic, along with an SRO blocking traffic by Kirk Street.

Q. What time should our students who are participating begin to move outside, and what time should they be expected to move back inside?

A. Students may start moving outside without backpacks at 9:50am for a 10:00am start time. Students are expected to move back into the school at 10:17am and return to advisory. The class officers will announce at 10:17 to return to advisory. (If we have a delay they will exit the building at 10:10am for a 10:20am start and return to advisory at 10:43).

Q. What time does period 3 start?

A. Students should be in period 3 starting at 10:25

Q. What do we do if some students want to participate in the walkout and some do not?

A. Teachers primary responsibility during the walkout is to ensure student safety. If your whole class walks out, please stay with your class. If some stay back, please either stay with them or ask to combine with another classroom nearby. Since we don't know how many students will join the walkout, this is going to have to be a decision that's made on the spot. I suggest you make arrangements ahead with a neighbor in case you have a couple of students that want to stay behind.

Q. Do students have to participate in the walkout?

A. This is strictly voluntary, please do not encourage or discourage students from participating. This will be their own decision to make.

Q. Where are the class officers setting up to speak outside?

A. The class officers plan to speak using their own microphone system with speakers by the flagpoles near the main entrance.

Q. When you say all administrators are needed outside, whom are you including?

A. We would like all deans, social workers, guidance counselors, department chairs, and directors to help with student safety outside. If it appears that many students decide not to participate, I'll ask that some of the aforementioned stay inside the school. Again, we don't know how many students are going to participate so we need to be flexible. All security personnel will remain inside the building.

Q. Are parents and community members participating in this walkout?

A. This is a student driven event; parents and community members will not be participating. The roads will be blocked off shortly before the event to prevent anyone else from being involved although I expect there may be press nearby.