

Dear LHS Family,

I hope you enjoyed your weekend and had a chance to get outside and enjoy the fall weather! I am sure many of you have been watching the updates on hurricanes Harvey and Irma and are checking in with family and friends in the area. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected by these big weather events.

Thank you to all for a successful second week of school. I know some of our staff members (and students) had to adjust to a partially new schedule and I appreciate your flexibility and understanding. I realize some of the corrections were not easy and caused some disruption to an otherwise fairly seamless start to the year. Again, I apologize for these changes and look forward to a smoother week ahead.

### **KINDNESS MATTERS:**

When you have a chance, drop by the library to see the acts of **Kindness** postings from both students and staff. I was able to get a couple of the **Kindness** posters and plan to put them up around the main office - these are a wonderful reminder to keep Kindness in our everyday thoughts and actions during the school year.

English teacher, **Nancy Murphy** shared some feedback on the Kindness assignment this summer and she believes the "assignment is a winner" - I think you'll agree as you read some of the comments below!

As part of my "Do Now" I asked my students to tell me one thing they enjoyed about the summer kindness assignment. The vast majority of my students stated that they enjoyed listening to the podcasts. Here were a few of their responses...

*"The one thing I enjoyed most about the summer assignment is that it really made me think about the people in my life and all the kindness they did for me and how grateful I am for them."*

*"What I enjoyed the most about the kindness summer assignment was listening to the podcast because they touched my heart and inspired me to do something kind."*

*"The part I enjoyed the most was actually doing the act of kindness. I liked the guy's reaction when I did it."*

*"I enjoyed performing the act of kindness the most; it made me feel good about myself."*

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

For staff new to LHS - Friday's are deemed **Red** and **Grey** days as a fun way to celebrate and recognize Lowell High school spirit. I have attached a picture of two of our staff members who were all smiles donning their **Red** and **Grey** this past Friday. We plan to offer the opportunity to win a gift card for any student and staff member who participates on special Fridays. 😊

This year district leaders will focus on analyzing teaching for improved students' results. This work will be done in collaboration with the organization, *Research for Better Teaching*. **Every month** House Deans and Department Chairs along with Amy, Dave, Roxane and I will be meeting with other district leaders for a full day of leadership work. LHS leadership will be split among two cohort groups, and will meet on separate days so we can still provide admin coverage in the building at all times. Our first all day training takes place this week split between Tuesday and Wednesday. We are committed to this

leadership initiative and will do our best to respond to emails as quickly as possible when we return. As always, if you have an emergency, please address with one of the admin in the building. Our district coaches and instructional specialists will be provided structured professional development on this topic as well.

For your information, I have attached a list of the home languages of our students including the number of students represented in each language. As a newcomer to Lowell High, I was impressed with the diversity of our student body - I feel very fortunate to be part of this school community.

Please encourage students to participate in our LHS t-shirt design contest. Our theme is LHS Unity - all design ideas are welcome, we are looking for a design that would appeal to students and staff. We have American Express gift cards to the students with the most creative and printable designs. See Tom Thornton for more details.

### **SHOUT OUTS:**

Special thanks to our hard working **Security Team**. This week posed some special challenges and they all rose to the occasion in the best way possible.

Thank you to **Emily Steinberg** for organizing our Lowell High Sunshine Club for many years. Her commitment to spreading sunshine through the use of the collected funds is much appreciated. If you are interested, dues are \$25.00 and this money helps fund the retirement party, retiree gifts, scholarships for seniors and numerous floral arrangements.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

I thought you would enjoy reading this article (link below) from Edutopia which includes tips for teaching tough kids. Making positive connections with all students is very important, especially our toughest students. When trust is developed these relationships are often the most powerful and memorable for both students and their teachers.

[https://www.edutopia.org/blog/tips-for-teaching-tough-kids-josh-work?utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_medium=socialflow](https://www.edutopia.org/blog/tips-for-teaching-tough-kids-josh-work?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=socialflow)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony out by the flag poles - tune in during advisory  
(you received instructions from Roxane Howe and Bryan Wilkins)  
Friends of Lowell High First General Meeting 7:00PM at the Little Theater
- 9/20 Early Release (info will be sent out this week)  
LHS AP Kickoff (in partnership with Mass Insight Education) - students enrolled in AP English or AP STEM and all AP English and AP STEM teachers will attend

**ATHLETIC HOME EVENTS:**

<b>TUESDAY, SEP 05, 2017</b> <b>Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Billerica Memorial</b>	<b>Lowell High School</b>	Abraham Gym - Riddick Fieldhouse - Lowell High School
<b>THURSDAY, SEP 07, 2017</b> <b>Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Andover</b>	<b>Lowell High School</b>	Abraham Gym - Riddick Fieldhouse - Lowell High School
<b>THURSDAY, SEP 07, 2017</b> <b>Field Hockey: Varsity Game</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>North Andover</b>	<b>Martin Athletic Complex (Cawley Stadium)</b>	
<b>FRIDAY, SEP 08, 2017</b> <b>Cheerleading: Varsity Game</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Lawrence High School</b>	<b>Cawley Stadium</b>	
<b>FRIDAY, SEP 08, 2017</b> <b>Football: Varsity Game</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Lawrence</b>	<b>Martin Athletic Complex (Cawley Stadium)</b>	
<b>SATURDAY, SEP 09, 2017</b> <b>Field Hockey: Varsity Game</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Everett</b>	<b>Martin Athletic Complex(Cawley Stadium)</b>	

Have a positive and inspiring week everyone! As always, let me know if you would like to share about someone or something special happening in our school.

Best,

Marianne

