

Dear LHS Family,

We have now moved into October where fall has definitely arrived! Apple picking, pie baking, pumpkins and the excitement of the new season is officially here - fall in New England is spectacular and many of us welcome it! We do want to extend our well wishes (albeit late) to all of our friends who celebrated Rosh Hashanah last week with their friends and family.

This past week was filled with some special events involving our talented students. Our senior officer candidate pool was jam packed with a strong showing of students running for office. Candidates prepared and delivered great speeches resulting in a fantastic group of newly elected senior officers. Congrats to all!

Our Step Team performed at the Superior Courthouse on Thursday for Cultural Diversity Day and wowed the crowd. I was fortunate enough to be there with them and was quite impressed with their energy, passion and talent! I came from a school that didn't offer dance classes or teams, so I am thrilled to see all of this and more offered in abundance here at LHS!

Our JROTC Color Guard and Chorus students performed at the swearing in of Judge Stacey Fortes on Friday afternoon at the Superior Courthouse. The Lowell Sun wrote, "Judge Stacey Fortes was officially sworn in Friday as first justice of Lowell District Court, making her the first woman and first African-American to lead the court that ranks among the state's busiest". Both JROTC and our Chorus students performed impeccably! Our chorus students sang the National Anthem, God Bless America, as well as "The Distance You Have Come", where they received a standing ovation! Special thanks to **M.Sgt. Kevin Casilli, Sam Descoteaux and Sharon Clark!** What a fitting tribute to Judge Fortes - it was a wonderful way to end a Friday afternoon!

Check it out!

<http://launch.newsinc.com/embed.html?type=VideoPlayer/16x9&trackingGroup=90620&widgetId=1&videoId=33051572&playlistId=19086>

Several teachers invited me into their classrooms and/or club meetings this week. I thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to see our students in their learning environment. There are so many great things happening across our classrooms on a daily basis - I hope each of you will consider inviting me at some point during the school year.

Last Friday we held our first "Jeans for a Cause" day. We collected almost \$500.00 (wow!) to be used for clubs and activities this year. Any club that would like to request funds should see Tom Thornton.

Thanks to all who contributed, we certainly exceeded expectations! ☺ As I've mentioned previously, we will continue to do "Jeans for a Cause" once a month throughout the school year.

Speaking of jeans, there have been several questions about staff dress code that have come across my desk recently. As a reminder, we will continue the dress code expectations as they were previously established before I arrived. If you have a question or need clarification, please check in with your house dean.

DID YOU KNOW?

German Exchange Teachers will be here on Monday morning!



As shared by Katie O'Keefe:

Their orientation is Monday from 8 to 10 in the library. They will be joining us on our Oct. 4th early release day and observing classes on Thursday Oct. 5th. Other than orientation and those dates, they won't really be here at LHS.

Just to note, this visit is coordinated through the organization Checkpoint Charlie and the Ministry of Education in Germany. This is a professional development trip to help these teachers learn more about American culture, education, and to practice speaking the language. This is the 4th year we have welcomed our German colleagues. Welcome to our German friends!

LHS T-Shirts - we have had several students submit designs with the theme "LHS Unity" which were reviewed with our newly elected class officers. As soon as the design is finalized our officers will run the chosen design by our students for feedback, I will send it along to staff as well. We want to make sure the design will be welcome for all the wear with pride! If we have support (and are able to get a sponsor) we hope to purchase t-shirts for all staff and students to wear on spirit days, red and grey days, and to events, etc. Our t-shirt will have the message of LHS Unity and will ensure everyone has at least one school spirit item in their closet!

PLEASE WELCOME:

George Tzelias has come on board to teach history at the Freshman Academy. He is a proficient Greek speaker; you can address your basic Greek questions to him. George attended Emmanuel College in Boston, where he studied both History and Political Science. This was six years ago.

He comes to us from the Pyne Arts School, where he taught Social Studies and English for the past four years. George likes to read, lift weights, run on the treadmill, bike, and vacation. George's wife also is a high school history teacher at Tyngsboro High. Welcome aboard George!



Bryanna Laughlin is an LHS alumna who graduated from Lesley University. She returned to us last year as a tutor, and soon after took over the Balanced Literacy classes at the Freshman Academy. This year she has followed her students across the street to teach the 10th grade Balanced Literacy course and sophomore English. Bryanna is an avid reader and enjoys traveling; she hopes to join our students on a European adventure in the next year or two. Welcome Bryanna!

UPCOMING:

- 10/4 Clean Energy Partners Breakfast
Early Release
- 10/9 Columbus Day - no school
- 10/10 Meet and Greet before Open House 5-6pm
PALS Family Meet and Greet 5-6:30pm
Open House 6-8pm
Freshman Parent Night 5:30-8:00pm
- 10/11 PSAT exams for all Soph and Jrs.
Freshman and Senior schedule out soon

Have an awesome week everyone!

Marianne