

Dear LHS Family,

We just finished a very busy and productive week - I hope you had a chance to relax and renew a bit this weekend! On Tuesday evening we held a fantastic open house/conference evening for parents and students in both the Freshman Academy and upper grades. I had the opportunity to chat with many parents coming into the main lobby before conferences and then as they left for the evening. The feedback from parents was overwhelmingly supportive of our staff. They walked away smiling and glad they came because they felt the conversations with each of you were productive and encouraging. Thank you! Special thanks to our JROTC students for helping greet families in the main lobby along with Karyn Cassidy who offered college advice and information to parents. Thanks also to our culinary students who baked awesome treats for both buildings and our Environmental Club for the Scarecrows with a message who helped spruce the lobby up.

Please note that there will be all day leadership training this week, half the team will attend on Wednesday and the other half on Thursday.

So you know - I will be out of the building on Wednesday for leadership training and then Thursday and Friday for the Nashville Career Academy Study Tour (visiting two high schools) along with Stephanie Selvaggio and Megan Vilcans from LHS. This is an opportunity afforded to us through Mass STEM Hub. We will be joined with three other members of the LSD and members of the following districts; Everett, Uxbridge, Watertown including One8 Foundation representatives. This is an exciting opportunity for us and I plan to share more about the trip in my next Monday memo.

We did not have a great start to Friday the 13th with the report of the student Instagram posting, but all in all the LPD and LHS admin with the support of district office worked swiftly and successfully to address the situation. Special thanks to the Lowell Vocational student who brought it to the attention of a LHS student who then showed her mom. This was definitely a great example of a "see something, say something"! I believe staff and parents appreciated the fact that the incident was brought to closure very quickly.

Lastly, I want to give a big thank you to all of you who completed the assessment survey last week - we closed the survey Friday with 195 completed surveys, which is an 87% participation rate! Wow!!! We will review the results together using our data protocol during our professional development day on 11/7. In the meantime, I hope to share some preliminary results after I get back next week.

#### **#KINDNESS MATTERS**

Thanks to Awo Adu, Class of 2018 for sharing an opportunity for kindness by writing Future for Puerto Rico letters - these are due by 10/16 as noted in Suzanne Keefe's email last week. Awo states... We were all witnesses to the massive destruction that Hurricane Maria unleashed on the island of Puerto Rico. It is important that we do not forget Puerto Rico even as other events surface in the news. There are well over three million people that live in Puerto Rico; that is well over three million American lives that have been turned upside down. Words of encouragement can go a long way during times of crisis. That is why you have been asked to write a letter to a Puerto Rican victim of Hurricane Maria.

#### **SHOUT OUTS:**

Thank you to **Aaron Smith and all staff** who implemented the PSAT's for our sophomores and juniors - it was a big task for a school our size but it was well executed and provided a positive testing environment for our students!

Special thanks go to the **Freshman Academy and Senior Advisory** teachers who supervised and provided a myriad of productive activities for our students while the others were testing.

Thanks to **Karyn Cassidy and everyone** who helped make the College Fair a big success for students and families on Thursday evening!

**PLEASE WELCOME:**



***Elizabeth McQuaid - Math***

Elizabeth (Lizzy) teaches Algebra I and Geometry in the Freshmen Academy. Last year she came on as a long term sub, teaching sophomore Geometry and Math IV. Lizzy is a graduate of Lowell High School where she played field hockey, basketball, and softball. She attended Trinity College in Connecticut, where she also played softball. Lizzy loves the beach, and both the Red Sox and Patriots. She is currently an assistant coach of the LHS Varsity softball team and coaches for a travel softball team year round.



***Dave Lezenski - Athletic Director and Phys Ed Dept. Chair***

Dave comes to us after serving the previous nine years as the Director of Athletics, Physical Education and Health in the Billerica Public Schools. He is a Lowell resident for the past 26 years. A product of Lynn, Dave attended Boston College and began his teaching career in the City of Nashua over two decades ago. Outside of school he enjoys spending time with his niece Kristina, as she prepares her search for colleges, golfing and is an active member of Longmeadow Golf Club and the Longmeadow Golf Club Scholarship Foundation.

**UPCOMING:**

- 10/17 National Honor Society Inductions 6:30pm
- 10/24 Distinguished Alumni Welcome Dinner
- 10/25 Distinguished Alumni Event at LHS 12:30-2:30pm in Auditorium
- 10/26 Hispanic Heritage Night Pot Luck Dinner - Proceeds will go toward Puerto Rico

Thanks for all you do with "our kids" each day, your love and support makes all the difference especially on those days when students challenge us the most! Have a good and peaceful week everyone!

Best,

Marianne