

Dear LHS Family,

I hope each of you enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday and some had some time to relax and renew. We have four full weeks before the next holiday break, I'm sure the time will go by quickly. As a gentle reminder, this time of year comes with mixed emotions for some of our students. We know as educators this can be one of the most difficult times of the year, hence we see heightened behaviors that may be more challenging to address. The need for kindness and compassion is greater now than ever. If you need support with a student who seems to be struggling no matter how big or small, please reach out to your House Office for assistance.

SHOUT OUTS:

This has been a very busy time for our Fine Arts and JRROTC Students and Staff between the Pep Rally, the Thanksgiving Day Game the City of Lights Parade and more, they devote so much extra time and energy to make sure LHS is prepared and well represented at each event. Special thanks to our Fine Arts Director, Sharon Clark and JRROTC Team led by Lt. Col. Eileen Ironfield and their staffs for their leadership and commitment at each of these popular events. By the way the Fine Arts float scored the MOST FESTIVE AWARD title for their float in the parade, congratulations it was a beauty!

I would also like to give a big shout out to our Fall Athletic Coaches who gave it their all to guide and support our student athletes on and off the field this past season. We had over 700 students participate in fall sports, which is approximately 22 percent of our students. How about that win against Haverhill on Thanksgiving Day!!!!

A special thank you to the following LHS teacher coaches (and the entire fall coaching staff attached):

- Scott Ouellet Boys CC
- Dave Casey JV Football
- Dan Graham Freshman Football
- Dick O'Loughlin Varsity Golf
- Brian Barry JV Golf
- Mike Crowe Boys JVB Soccer
- Wayne Taylor Girls Varsity Soccer
- Jen McGlaufflin Girls Swim and Dive
- Brian Myers Girls Volleyball

[Click here to see the LHS Fall Coaching Staff](#)

A big thank you to all involved in making the Pep Rally on Wednesday a huge success! I was told everyone looks forward to the Pep Rally and now I know why 😊 Thanks especially to Tom Thornton for making sure everything was organized and went off without a hitch. The Freshman Pep Rally and following activity was a positive and electric event as well! The T-Shirts were a big success and it was a beautiful thing seeing so many staff members and students wearing them on Wednesday. I hope our students and all of you continue to wear them throughout the year and beyond with much PRIDE.

Thank you to Angela Hondros who has a contact each year who she works with to give out turkeys and fixings to 25 families through the social workers of each house office. In addition, thanks to our security team member, Leo, for making sure that the turkeys were refrigerated overnight so that parents who weren't able to pick them up could come the next day!

Congratulations to our one of our LHS grads, Tahina Montoya on her promotion to Air Force Captain to Major on November 20th. As many of you know, she is a prior graduate of Lowell High School and was our Veteran's Day Ceremony guest speaker last year. We are all so proud of her!



DID YOU KNOW?

- The school committee approved free bus passes for all students January through March for students who live a mile and a half or further away. Please be on the lookout for information in advisory this week to identify interested students.
- We are beginning a Coffee and Conversation series the first Wednesday of each month for LHS Parents to have informal conversation with school leadership where they can also voice concerns and share ideas. The first one is being held on Wednesday, 12/6 7:30-8:30am in the HOS Conference Room.

Special thanks to Dr. Julio de Carvalho for arranging for our guest speaker, Consul General to talk to his Portuguese classes and meet with myself and other staff last week. As mentioned by Department Chair Stephen Gervais, this will follow a week in which Dr. de Carvalho has arranged for the Portuguese National Exam to be administered at LHS for the first time ever he believes. Obrigado to Julio for all his hard work helping to increase understanding of the Portuguese speaking world!

As written by Dr. de Carvalho ... "The Cape Verde Consul General, Dr. Herminio Moniz was extremely pleased he visited LHS last week. He asked that we invite him again because he enjoyed the entire school climate. He said he was amazed by our students' behavior. He said next time LHS wants to go to Cape Verde, there will be no cost for our visas...and that he'd like to stay in touch with this "great school." I took him around the school and he enjoyed students and staff engagement. He said, "A school as big as this one—everyone is on task." He was amazed about everything. He asked me to discuss with him possible way to support our Portuguese program.

On behalf of my Portuguese students, I want to thank the HS (Ms. Busteed), WLD (Mr. Gervais), DCI (Amy McLeod), Sue Francisco, Librarian (Ms. Downey and her staff) and the entire school community. Our students enjoyed the meeting and their questions to the CG were brilliant."



Dr. Julio de Carvalho, Cape Verde Consul General, Dr. Herminio Moniz, and Department Chair Stephen Gervais



#KindnessMatters

Alison Montemurro shared she did an activity in seminar last week where each student needed to create a leaf and write things they are thankful for on the leaf. After some prodding, the students did a really nice job and she just wanted to share some things her students were thankful for. What a timely activity and reminder for what we are thankful for, thanks Alison!



Also sharing the Tree of Thanks from the Literacy Lab - thanks to each of them for sharing!



Love the T-Shirts:

Here's to another great week of learning!

Enjoy each day,
Marianne