

Dear LHS Family,

I hope everyone had a good and somewhat relaxing weekend despite this incredibly busy time of year! This past week was not a standout at Lowell High School. My hope is that together we will move forward and continue to do the very best for our students despite the difficult news at our school. If you have a student who is struggling with this, please let their house office know so they can follow-up directly with the student. It is very important to direct any concerns and/or information directly to the House Deans as well. Please reach out and support each other as well, it's times like these that a friendly check-in and hello can make a difference in someone's day!

As a reminder, next Thursday 12/21 is our staff holiday luncheon and **ALSO UGLY SWEATER DAY!** It promises to be a good time (I understand B House in preparing for this in a big way), look for more details next week on the categories and prizes.

Lastly, please remember to turn on our daily Red Raider report during advisory so students can stay up-to-date on LHS happenings. If your television is not working, let Bryan Wilkins know.

We have much to be grateful for and I'm sure you will agree, our amazing students and staff are the real story at Lowell High School!

#KINDNESS MATTERS

Operation Rose Bud



Twenty-six cadets signed up to for a program in conjunction with the Mayor's office to help shovel walkways for those who need help across the city. Students were given hats and gloves and a big thank you from the Mayor's Office on Thursday 12/7. This is LHS Kindness at its best - thank to all of the students who volunteered for this program!

Our ROTC students also presented a \$1000.00 check from selling pink cancer bracelets to Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center - thanks to them for all their hard work and your donations to make this happen! (See Kevin Casilli's email for more information)

DID YOU KNOW?

Dr. Him Sophy



Dr. Him Sophy, renowned Cambodian Composer was here to share a presentation by Cambodian Living Arts with some of our Fine Arts students. Thanks to the collaboration between MCC and our fine arts department chair, **Dr. Sharon Clark**. What an incredible opportunity for our students and staff to listen to his story, ask questions and listen to the harp music. I was honored and delighted to meet Dr. Sophy and learn more about his upcoming work in Boston, New York and Paris. He was so humble and grateful to share his work with our school. He was also very happy to receive a LHS Unity t-shirt to remember us by!

We held our first Parent Coffee and Conversation this past Wednesday and will continue to hold these open discussions once a month through May. Even though we started small, we had some positive feedback and look forward to this forum growing each month.

SHOUT OUTS:

Congrats to all - the Lowell High School Mill Market (a new school-based food pantry for our students who might not have enough food at home) ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Friday morning, as evidenced by all the smiles! Thanks again to the students in Jessica Lander's class and B-House for bringing this to fruition!



Last week JROTC celebrated and congratulated **Kim Pechthida** for being awarded the Yale University QuestBridge College Match Scholarship... Students selected for the College Match are “matched” to one of QuestBridge’s highly selective college partners, which means they were admitted early with a guaranteed full, four-year scholarship, including tuition, room and board, and other expenses. QuestBridge’s college partners include top liberal arts colleges such as Amherst, Colby, Hamilton, Pomona, and Williams and exceptional research universities such as Brown, Columbia, Duke, UChicago, Stanford, and Yale.



Congratulations to Kim - when I spoke with her after the celebration she credited much of her success to her involvement in the JROTC program and all of her teachers who helped her along the way!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12/12 MP2 Progress reports distributed in Advisory
- 12/21 Lunchtime Holiday Gathering for all staff plus UGLY SWEATER DAY!
- 12/22 Jeans Day - last school day before holiday break begins
- 1/2/18 School Re-opens

Enjoy the week everyone! Look for the positive in everyone and everything, it makes a world of difference! Ten school days and counting...

Best,
Marianne