

Good evening LHS Family,

This is the last week of school before the holiday break, it is sure to be busy, joyful, stressful, hectic, fun and wonderful at all different times. I don't know about you but I'm trying to enjoy all the moments of the season before we move onto January. Some students made my day today when they allowed me to participate in their reindeer games/learning activities - I was so thankful to have the chance to enjoy some fun activities with our students!

Last week was filled with many memorable moments here at LHS. Most remarkable was the work of our students and staff who participated in the culminating Generation Citizen events. On Wednesday all students were able to view the projects in the auditorium and then approximately 120 students and 13 staff went to the state house to present and represent. As a judge, I was able to view projects from several different schools.

I did have the opportunity to judge a project from LHS and I was beaming with pride as I watched them present with such enthusiasm and passion. Special thanks to all of their teachers who helped them along the way, from start to finish! Read Rob DeLossa's recent email for more information on the event!



Thanks to Rob for the traditional picture on the stairs of the State House.



Check out these flags from all different towns and cities in the commonwealth!

Reminder - Thursday is ugly sweater day with some pretty sweet prizes! If you are entering the contest please let Tom Thornton know so he can take your pic for voting. I'm still trying to track down something to wear and I'm running out of time:(! I've heard rumblings of some pretty stiff competition for the HOS parking spot!

DID YOU KNOW?

- A few LHS staff and I attended the Project Learn Community Forum last Monday night with over 70 community members in attendance. It was a wonderful evening which included a performance by our very amazing Step Team, an ethnic menu, dancers, and community conversation. Our very own Gina Martel emceed the event which made it even more special. She kept the event on track in a positive and focused manner, thanks Gina! The conversations and feedback regarding how schools can improve communication, family engagement, and much more was worth its weight in gold!
- I stand corrected, I referred to the Raider Report as the Red Raider Report and the name was changed a year or more ago.
- Congratulations to Sarah Boutselis for receiving the POSSE award, I am sure her parents Officer Boutselis (FA SRO) and Bopha are very proud!

The Boston POSSE Scholarship is a diversity scholarship that we nominate 11th graders to be considered for. As seniors, they participate in a series of interviews and if they are chosen could attend 1 of 6 partner institutions, including Bryn Mawr College, Bucknell University, Centre College, Denison University, Hamilton College, and Union College.

Here is a description from the POSSE website:

Founded in 1989, Posse identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. Posse extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams—Posses—of 10 students. Posse partner colleges and universities award Posse Scholars four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships.

SHOUT OUTS

On December 7th, nineteen Lowell High students traveled with Mike McCabe to Boston to take part in the Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge. Students engaged in a 60 day trading scenario against other schools from Eastern Massachusetts. Teams started with \$500,000 and analyzed news and market conditions to buy and sell stock. The team of Benjamin Koeun, Thomas McDonough, Gary Rudy and Derek Pen finished 2nd overall by increasing their portfolio by over \$400,000. They were rewarded with Kindle Fire tablets for coming in 2nd out of the 20 teams that competed. The picture below includes three of the four winners, Ben, Thomas and Gary - great job to Mike and his students!



Congratulations to Coach Scott Ouellete for being named Boston Globe Coach of the Year! This is such an accomplishment - thanks to Scott for being a role model to our students and all the

hard work he puts in on a daily basis to help our students develop and grow to the best of their abilities!

Shout out to 27 students in Katie Dube's Creative Writing class who were selected to be published. They responded to a contest prompt from Young Writers' --- and were chosen to be part of their upcoming publication! Congrats to Katie and her students!

Congratulations to Emily Satterfield - she was accepted to MIT Early Action!!! Woo hoo!!! Congrats Emily!

How could I have forgotten my shout out to E House for winning some friendly competition!

We held a Kids Helping Kids Toy Drive the past couple of weeks and E-House really stepped up in the final hours to push ahead of all the other houses... to win the bragging rights and the first place prize. Thanks to E-House and to everyone who contributed in making the holidays a little brighter for some of kids in the community!

Some information about the collection.... Here's a great opportunity to help out kids in the community this holiday season. The house offices are sponsoring a spirited competition to see who can collect the most toys. The donated toys will then be distributed to the children in the Lowell community. The House Office with the most points earns special recognition, bragging rights and first place will receive a \$200 grant to be used in the House Office. Second place will earn \$100 and third will earn \$50. This is a great opportunity for older kids to be helping younger kids in their community. See your House Dean for more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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

I hope you all have get to spend time with loved ones over this holiday break. Take time to reflect, celebrate and cherish all the moments of the season, I know I plan to! At this time of year it's easy to get caught up in all the hustle and bustle, but I would like to say thank you for including me in the magic of Lowell High School, a community of caring and remarkable students and staff! Thanks for all you do on a daily basis to help our students find their voice, passion and path.

Gratefully yours,
Marianne

