

LAWRENCE HIGHT

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CAMPUS NEWSLETTER
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HEADMASTER'S UPDATE

Dear LHS Faculty and Staff,

One of our campus-wide goals this year is to increase social emotional learning at LHS. In our last campus-wide professional development the entire LHS staff attended a brief, but important session on Social Emotional Learning (SEL). The goal of that session was to provide a brief overview of SEL and illustrate and highlight the importance of social emotional learning as it relates to academic

achievement as well as the overall health and wellbeing of our staff and students. I am excited that several teachers from across the campus have expressed an interest in working with our core SEL team to develop action plans and short and long term goals for our work together. I am hopeful that more of you will join the team in the near future.

As I am learning, SEL is much more than a program or a single initiative. SEL can be that; however, I have realized that much of

the work that teachers at LHS do on a daily basis is centered on supporting students' social and emotional success. Across the campus, LHS teachers and staff exhibit compassion, empathy, and demonstrate caring attitudes and behaviors in classrooms and hallways, both with our students and with each other. Instructional strategies such as Think Write Pair Share, Socratic Seminars, and Turn and Talks are examples of how teacher practices can promote SEL.

These interactive learning activities engage students in collaborative learning; foster a sense of community and team work that is part of SEL. With that said, much of what we presently do with regards to SEL may not be codified or labeled as such. So, we will be interviewing and surveying you, over the next weeks, in order to understand what practices are in place, what strategies you use and teach, and what supports you provide. Knowing that we already possess many SEL pockets of excellence, our goal is to reach a higher standard both individually and systematically to 1) develop a shared definition of SEL and inventory of what is actually happening across the campus 2) develop common language, expectations, procedures and protocols so that we can better support each

other and our students and 3) create a clear and transparent system to measure our SEL impact on learning and social outcomes as well as school climate. As we embark on increasing SEL practices at LHS we are not asking folks to do something brand new. Because teachers across the campus and in similar schools like ours have successfully implemented SEL we will work together to help you grow your practice, develop new skills, expand your reach and learn from each other. There is no quick-fix, prescribed SEL curriculum for us to adopt; we will look at our current practices, share the best and most powerful, and identify areas of professional development to enhance our practices and competency in SEL. The creativity, commitment and strength of our staff will guide the work of creating a dynamic,

comprehensive, integrated and effective SEL plan moving forward.

If you are interested on more information about SEL and/or how you might want to get involved in the LHS SEL team please email Dr. Ann Hall at Ann.Hall@lawrence.k12.ma.us

STUDENTS EXPLORE BIOTECHNOLOGY AT

BIOGEN



A group of twenty-three LHS juniors enrolled in the Early College program students recently spent the day working in the Community Lab at Biogen, the biotechnology firm, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They learned about the genetics of hemophilia. Though class

discussion and doing hands on activities (experiments using different lab equipment) they tested samples to determine "disease status" and predict their genotype. They were able to predict whether each individual (from the case study) had hemophilia, is a carrier, or is

healthy. Students also learned how to do micropipette - measures very small volumes of liquid.



LHS CHEER

ENJOYS SUCCESSFUL SEASON



The LHS Cheer team ended their fall 2017 season on Sunday, competing at the State Championships. They performed well but fell four points shy of qualifying for the National meet. Successes this season included 1st place

at the Attleboro Fall Invitational, 3rd place at the MVC Championships (qualifying for regionals), and 3rd place at the North Regional Championships (qualifying for states). According to Coach Katelyn Skerry, "We will need to work hard to

improve for winter season and come back ready to re-claim our previous 2016-17 MVC and Regional titles!" Congratulation to Cheer, and good luck in the winter season.

TURKEYS FOR THANKSGIVING

A MISSION OF LOVE

Over the last week, students in the Upper School led a fundraising drive to support the Daybreak Homeless Shelter, selling paper "turkeys" for \$1

apiece. The Daybreak Shelter in Lawrence provides temporary shelter, up to thirty days, for homeless men and women over the age of eighteen. Daybreak

Shelter is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Breakfast and dinner are served every day. Thanks to Ms. O'Donnell, Ms. Baillargeon, and Upper School Student Council.



DISCOVERING



On a brisk, sunny fall day, twenty-nine Juniors from the Upper School Academy visited the University of New Hampshire (UNH) for their annual Discover UNH program. The day focused on educating students about the

college process and showing them first-hand what a 'day in the life' of a college student looks like. The morning began with light refreshments and a brief overview of the University. A current UNH student then led the group on a tour of the campus stopping at the university library, in which students

were awed to see a Starbucks located in it. The next stop was to a dorm room, which provided the opportunity to see the cramped quarters of freshman living on campus. Lunch was provided in their nationally award winning dining hall with a pass for an "all you can eat" buffet. By 1:00pm students were listening intently to a panel of college students who answered many of the ideal questions posed to them by our LHS students and others in the audience. On our way back to the LHS Campus, our students chatted about what they had experienced and inquired when they would have another college visit. Discover UNH left our students pondering GPA's, college visits and their future.

DISCOVERING UNH

ESTRELLA

PROGRAM KICKS OFF



State Representative Juana Matias has organized a new program designed to inspire young Latina empowerment. The Estrella Program at Lawrence High School will include thirty female students from the 11th and 12th grade. They will participate in various workshops throughout the academic year that will allow them to develop skills including, but not limited to; public speaking, professional development, learning about distinct career paths and the importance of financial literacy. Of the Estrella Program, Representative Matias said, "I am thrilled to be commencing such a valuable initiative that will provide our female students with resources and skillsets that will help them academically, socially and professionally achieve their full

potential. I am honored that so many admirable women have come together to share their experiences and knowledge with our Lawrence High School female students."

Rep. Matias and her office recruited a number of successful Latina professionals to join the Estrella Program and to lead the workshops. These women include: Chief Justice of the Probate & Family Court Angela M. Ordoñez; current Massachusetts Secretary of Labor Rosalin Acosta; former U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts Carmen Ortiz; Afterschool Programs and Volunteer Manager for Discovering Justice Mariel-jane "MJ" Bastien; co-founder of the Latina Circle and Entrepreneurial Business Executive Betty Francisco; Asst. Clerk in the Essex Probate and Family Court Yenny Hornedo; Proba-

tion Officer at the Massachusetts Trial Court Lidia Maldonado; Eneida Roman of Eneida Roman Law Office and co-founder of the Latina Circle; and Rosa Rodriguez Williams, Director of the Latino/a Student Cultural Center at Northeastern University.

Chief Justice Ordoñez said of her involvement in the Program, "I am very honored to be working alongside Representative Juana Matias and other committed Latina professionals in developing this new program for Latinas at Lawrence High School. It is my hope that this program provides these students the necessary knowledge and skills to reach for the stars and pursue their dreams." The Estrella Program's started on Friday, November 17th at Lawrence High School. The first workshop session focused on the topic of Culture Identity and was led by Northeastern University's Rosa Rodriguez

JROTC AT ALL-STATE COMPETITION



There are twelve Army JROTC High Schools in the State that compete for the Governor's Cup. The winners of the Governor's Cup are considered **state champions** for JROTC drill teams for that particular school year. The winners move onto the Regional Competitions which are held in New York City, encompassing Army

JROTC

units from New England states, Pennsylvania and New York.

Currently the **Lancer** Battalion are in second place and have a chance to win the Governor's Cup and move onto the Regional Matches held in April. Their Drill Competition Season runs from Septem-

ber-December with three total competitions. At last weekend's competition, the Lancer Battalion received four, first place; three, second place; two, third place; and seven individual medals. They are currently leading the state in the Armed Division and in second place in Unarmed Division. Their next competition is Saturday, December 2nd, at East Boston High School.

JROTC



LHS PRESENTS AT NCTE

On Friday, November 17th, a team of LHS educators presented at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in St. Louis, Missouri. NCTE brings together some 7,000 English teachers every year for a conference on pedagogy, literature, and research. ELA teachers Richard Gorham and Yulissa Nunez (herself an LHS graduate, Class of 2010), were joined by current senior Monica Sim '18, and LHS alumna Amaryllis Lopez '16, now a sophomore at Bridgewater State University. All four are active participants in the Bread Loaf Teacher Network, a partner of the Lawrence Public Schools, and in the Next Generation Leadership Network (NGLN), a national program funded by the Ford Foundation to develop young people are literacy advocates.

The group presented a session titled, "Youth Writing Leaders in Action: Training the Next Generation of Literacy Activists." Gorham was the chair of the panel and provided introduction and context. Sim discussed the Lawrence High School Writing Lab class, an English elective in the Upper School Academy that trains 11th and 12th grade students to be Writing Leaders in ele-

mentary schools. Lopez discussed her work as a Writing

Educational Justice," "But Is that Writing? Teaching Writing Before and Beyond the Alphabet," and "Tigers Feeding Chickens," which explored an innovative Food Literacy program. They also got to see the famed St. Louis arch, sample St. Louis Bar-b-q at the "Sugar and Fire" restaurant,

visited the City Museum, and explored the Hall of Exhibitors, which showcased the newest products from publishing companies all over the nation.

They also got to meet some of their intellectual heroes, including University of Washington professor Django Paris, author of "Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy."

The group spent time with LHS alumna Lorena German '01, now a teacher in Austin, Texas, who was a panelist on the "But is that Writing?" session. Gorham and German serve together on the NCTE committee against Racism and Bias in the Teaching of English. Learn more about NCTE at <http://www2.ncte.org/>



Leader in Bread Loaf summer programs. Nunez discussed implications for the classroom, and led participants in a writing workshop. At the end of the session, Ohio State University professor Beverly Moss responded to the presentation, providing a theoretical framework for understanding the work. About forty teachers from around the country attended the session. After their presentation, the group was able to attend several other sessions, including "The Movement for Black

LIFE PROGRAM MEETS WITH THE MAYOR



Here is the picture of LIFE-1 students and Mayor Rivera at Lawrence City Hall. Every other week LIFE-1 (Learning Independence for Everyday) students practice using public transportation and learn about community resources within the city. On November 14th, the students were able to meet the Mayor and congratulate him on winning re-election.

UPPER SCHOOL FAMILY GALA



On Thursday evening, November 16th, the Upper School Academy held a Family Gala, to distribute report cards, and welcome families to the school. An estimated 300 students

and family members attended. Both staff and families contributed to a pot-luck supper with a variety of food and desserts. Live music was provided by DJ Mr. Schwartz, and live singing

by family members. Staff and families were able to interact in a relaxed environment and build relationships to support student success.

MCAC CELEBRATION A SUCCESS!



Lawrence High School has partnered with Gear Up (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) to provide support to our seniors in the college application process. Over the last three weeks, Gear Up hosted the MCAC event – the Massachusetts College Application Celebration. Seniors reported to the guidance suite during assigned times where

they had the chance to meet with college admissions representatives from a number of schools, including Worcester State, Fitchburg State, Salem State, Middlesex Community College, Northern Essex, the Massachusetts College of the Liberal Arts, the University of New Hampshire, the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth and at Amherst, and North Shore. Students completed

college applications, and some were accepted “on the spot” to various colleges. On October 26, MCAC made a trip to the International High School at the 233 Haverhill Street location, where INT seniors were accepted to Northern Essex and Middlesex. Next step? Gear Up is hosting FAFSA workshops over the next three weeks to help all seniors apply for financial aid.



ONE GOAL

NETWORKS WITH REEBOK



OneGoal Fellows Jasmine, Cristian, Noelia, and Alex participated in a fundraising and networking event at Reebok's new headquarters in the Seaport of Boston last Thursday evening. Fellows has the opportunity to meet and share their experi-

ences in the OneGoal program with potential donors to the program and CEO's of various companies. Because of the generous donations of Reebok's CEO Matthew O'Toole and an anonymous donor, Fellows were gifted pair of Reebok

sneakers and a \$50 gift card. All proceeds from the evening were directed to the OneGoal program. Fellows made both their program directors and the LHS community proud!

IMPORTANT DATES

WED NOV 22: Half Day

THU-FRI NOV. 23-24:
No School, Thanksgiving Holiday

THU NOV 23:
LHS Football vs. Central Catholic, home, 10am

MON NOV 27: Winter sports practices begin

THU-FRI NOV 30-DEC 1:
Winter Dance Performance, PAC, 6pm

THU DEC 7:
Upper School Holiday Concert, PAC, 6pm

THU DEC 14: Lower School Holiday Concert

THU DEC 21: Last day of school before Winter Break

TUE JAN 2: School resumes ("A" day)

THU JAN 4: ACCESS testing begins

FRI JAN 12:
No School; Full Day professional development

MON JAN 15:
No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Fri Jan 19: End of first semester

THU-SUN APR 5-8: The Wizard of Oz, PAC

FRI MAY 18, 2018:
Prom at Castleton, Windham, NH

FRI JUN 1, 2018: Graduation!

VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCES



On Saturday, November 11th, the Lawrence High School Girl's Ensemble, and the Junior ROTC Color Guard took place in the city observance of Veterans Day. On the same day, members of the JV football team took part in the rededication ceremony of the POW/MIA Chair of Honor at Veterans Memorial Stadi-

um. This special chair is always kept empty, to symbolize those who never came home. On Sunday October 29th, JROTC Cadets supported the 21st annual Lawrence Vietnam Memorial Road Race. Proceeds benefit local scholarship organizations and veteran's organizations.



Lawrence Public Schools Dance Department Presents



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD



THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
NOVEMBER 30TH & DECEMBER 1ST
6:30PM / TICKETS: \$5.00



Poster Design by Peter Holt



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