LYMAN HALL HIGH SCHOOL

Notes from the Principal Mr. David C. Bryant

REPORT CARDS: You have recently received your son's/daughter's report card for the first marking period. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's guidance counselor at 294-5360. Report cards are held in the Main office if the student has an obligation.

Parent-Teacher Conference Night

The second Parent-Teacher Conference Night for this year is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2007, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. This format allows parents to meet with teachers by appointment for 15 minutes to discuss their son's or daughter's academic achievement. Parents must **call** the school to schedule appointments with teachers by calling 294-5372 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. from December 3 through December 14. Each teacher can schedule only twelve appointments. I encourage you to schedule your appointments early. Guidance counselors and administrators are also available for appointments on December 18. Teachers do not have to attend unless they have three scheduled appointments. They will phone parents if they are not required to be at school for conferences.

Lyman Hall Teacher of the Year!

We are very pleased to announce that Mrs. Jane Haffner has been selected to be Lyman Hall's Teacher of the Year for 2007-2008. Mrs. Haffner wears many hats at Lyman Hall High School. She is our Choral Director, Chair of the Lyman Hall Student Assistance Team, Chair of the Advisory Committee, and a member of the Curriculum Management Team for Art and Music. Mrs. Haffner can be found wherever students are in need of support and guidance and is very deserving of this honor. Brava!!!

Some Important Reminders

When your child is going to be absent from school, please remember to call our office at either 294-5388 or 294-5350 to report the absence. Remember to have students bring in doctors' notes for medical absences. Doctors may also fax the information to 294-5353.

When a student is going to be dismissed early, a parent must either call the school or send in a note for dismissal. Please include a telephone number the parent may be reached at, as all dismissal notes will be verified by a phone call to the parent.

Only seniors & juniors with a valid driver's license are able to apply for a student parking permit. This permit must be signed by a parent and returned to the front greeter's desk, at which time the student will receive a parking tag. This tag must be displayed while parking in the student parking lot. Only enough permits will be issued to accommodate the amount of available parking spaces. There are a limited amount of permits left to be issued.

Parent Teacher Advisory Council (PTAC) Meeting Dates

Meeting are held in our Library at 7:00 p.m. All Lyman Hall parents are invited to attend. Future meetings are:

Thursday, January 3, 2008 Wednesday, February 6, 2008

All School Musical!

While the name of the play remains top secret, Lyman Hall High School Drama Club s planning to produce an all school musical production in May. Keep posted for further updates on this exciting venture!

The following students have been named AP Scholars for 2007 by the College Board. These students performed exceptionally well on the 2007 administration of the AP exams. They are, Christopher Allen, Daniel Beckwith, Lauren Bishop, Elizabeth Carlino, Patrick Carusone, Antonio DelGreco, Christina Harrington, Christopher Hart, Massnoon Ishaque, Anthony Jensen, Aric Kirsch, Ryan Knudsen, Katie Mantie, William Pursell, Jessica Serra, Jessica Urbasik, Louanne Woznicki, and Kristen Zemke. AP Scholars with Honor are Jeffrey Baker, Julia Czaplinski, Christopher Gagne, Thomas Hils, Tanvir Muktadir, Amanda Palmer, and Richard Vogt. AP Scholars with Distinction are Daniel Brooks, Sheila Cosgrove, Timothy Fekete, Lysle Kilbourn, Joyce Laine, Laura Mesite, Kaitlyn Nolan, Amanda Pires, and Sheila Reagan. And, the AP National Scholars for 2007 are Irene Jia and Joseph Musso.

Financial Aid Night

College Financial Aid Evening for grade 12 Lyman Hall and Sheehan parents and students will be held at Lyman Hall High School on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, (snow date of December 12th) at 7:00 pm in the Lyman Hall Auditorium.

The guest speaker will be Mr. Dominic Yoia, Senior Director of Financial Aid at Quinnipiac University.

Community Service

Once again we are asking you to closely monitor the number of hours of community service that your son/daughter has completed. Starting with the class of 2008, all students must complete thirty hours of community service. In addition, those hours must be documented and processed through the Lyman Hall Guidance Department. Students who do not earn thirty hours of community service by the close of their senior year will not be eligible to earn a diploma nor will they be allowed to take part in graduation exercises. Please see our website for community service opportunities.

Sportsmanship

As an active member of the Southern Connecticut Conference, we are committed to ensuring that our sporting events are safe and positive experience for our students, competitors, officials and fans. Therefore, we closely enforce the following SCC guidelines for our spectators.

- Respect decisions made by contest officials
- Refrain from taunting, booing, heckling, and the use of profanity in any manner
- ♦ Sit in the designated area assigned to each school
- Leaving a contest prior to its conclusion with the expectation of returning will not be permitted
- Admission to a contest is not a license to verbally assault others or to be generally obnoxious
- Respect athletes, coaches, and fans.

These guidelines apply to all of our athletic contests whether they are held at home or away. Students who violate these guidelines may be denied admission to future events, dealt with through suspension from school, and/or be arrested.

Homework

Homework is an essential part of the high school experience. Through homework, students practice the skills that they have learned in class, or they do the work needed to prepare for subsequent lessons. Often, it is the understandings that they gather through this independent work, that provide the true, long term learning that leads to academic success.

We also understand that many students do not understand the importance of homework and that often homework is disregarded in exchange for other activities. However, students do themselves a disservice when homework is neglected. Obviously, grades suffer as a result, but more importantly the student's ability to fully demonstrate his/her ability is compromised.

Therefore, please continue to encourage your son/daughter to complete all assigned homework. Please provide them with an appropriate space and level of supervision needed to ensure that this very important work is being done. Many students need to work in the quiet of their rooms away from distractions. Other students need to be in the midst of the family doing their homework at the kitchen table as they interact with others. In either case, all students need support as they take on challenging material. You can help by reviewing notes in preparation for tests and quizzes, helping your son/daughter keep work organized particularly on long-term assignments, and by engaging them in conversation about the material they are working on. Please make homework a regular part of your son's/daughter's routines. The results of good homework habits are significant as they pave the way to continued academic success.

Community Day 2007

This year's Community Day Activity was a tremendous success. 360 Lyman Hall students, under the guidance of Ms. Barracato, Mrs. Scharpf, Mrs. Morrow and Mrs. Hollis, raked leaves for more than 60 elderly citizens of Wallingford. Activities such as these go very far in changing people's perceptions of young people and have a lasting impact on the community as a whole.



Bridge Builders

This year, the Lyman Hall High School Individual and Family Development class is making connections with senior citizens through the Bridge Builders program in conjunction with Ashlar Village. Bridge Builders brings Lyman Hall students together with seniors to talk about life and to see what has changed and what has remained the same through the decades. More importantly, these discussions are breaking down the barriers that often exist between teens and seniors with each group coming away with a better understanding of the other.

Mrs. Karin Pyskaty, who developed and leads the Individual and Family Development course, is to be commended for her efforts in enlightening our students by bringing them together for meaningful conversations with our senior citizens.

Coming Events

Dec. 4 - Fall Sports Night

Dec. 5 - Interim Period Ends

Dec. 10 - Deadline for Transcripts Requests for December

Dec. 11 - Financial Aid Night

Dec. 18 - Parent Teacher Conferences

Dec. 20 Holiday Concert

Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 - Holiday Recess