

LOLHS Parent Advisory Board Minutes

Wednesday, 12 October 2022

6:30, LOLHS Library

In attendance: Jim Wygonik, Principal

Christy Zelek, Dottie Wells-Co-Presidents, Lori Montazella-Secretary and 12 parents

This month's meeting was lively, well attended and informative!

Upcoming Meeting with Athletic Director

Date to be set to have our Athletic Director, Hildie Heck, answer some previously compiled questions from parents regarding any sports related questions and concerns. Various questions from parents have come up many times in PAB meetings so this is a great opportunity for parents to be able to submit questions which Hildie will review and answer at the meeting, date TBA. Please email your questions to Christy and Dottie at cz@ConnectedSystemsCT.com drw214@gmail.com Your questions will be submitted anonymously.

Locking the Locker Rooms

Locker rooms are unsupervised and unmonitored, hence the administration cannot leave them open in case of theft, etc. The custodian opens them up at 6:30 AM, so athletes can put their bags in the locker room for the day. It is then locked up at 7:40. PE teachers will unlock for their classes, then lock up again before and after classes. It is then unlocked at 2:00 PM so students can get their bags for various practices etc. then locked again at 2:45. Each Coach will unlock for the students after their respective practices and then lock up before they leave.

Jim also remarked that very few students use their regular school assigned lockers which are quite large and can fit most athletic items. Large sticks and clubs etc., can be stored in the athletic room or the hallway by the gym.

Charging for Athletic Events/Games

Various games at LOLHS charge admission, such as soccer, football and basketball games. This helps to defray the costs of line items such as officials and security. There is no plan to change at this time and charge for all sporting events. Parents questioned the fact that only some sports but not all charge and this seems unfair. Reasons given were there are no real gates and various entrances to the fields and that makes it difficult. Other schools also charge us to watch games.

Graduation Date Set!

Graduation for this year's seniors will be Monday June 12, 2023. Parents questioned about the Monday date. Reasons given: the last day of school is June 13. It has always been the norm to have graduation the day before the last day of school for underclassmen. Graduation has been held on every day of the week in past years, not necessarily on a Thursday or Friday as some parents questioned. This allows for missed school due to snow days to be added on, and accommodates the teachers being able to give the Seniors their finals prior to the underclassmen, and lots of other moving parts. The administration tried to balance this date and made the best decision all around. Graduation was not dictated by any member of the administrations' personal calendar.

This year will be Lyme-Old Lyme High Schools' 50th graduation!

Referendum

The vote on the school referendum to renovate various schools in the district is on Nov. 8th, Election Day, for Lyme and Old Lyme residents to place your vote for this, yea or nay.

Update on District Parent Council Meeting

The District meeting held 29th September discussed new rules regarding communication from parent groups. Parents questioned about the new communication policy with regard to parent groups (no emails being sent out by the district). Reasons given by Superintendent Ian Nevaier: There were way too many emails going out and the tendency then is to not read them. Therefore, only important communications from Jim will be emailed to the parents by Jim to highlight the importance of those emails. As mentioned in the meeting, our representatives will suggest instituting an opt-in email collection system for future parent group communications as the current way of communicating is still not satisfactory.

Parent groups info and other events can be communicated through Jeanne Manfredi's weekly blog. Please email Jeannie manfredij@region18.org

Other topics for Parent Discussion included the cancellation of the Pep Rally, activities substituted for the Pep Rally and other Spirit week activities. Reason given was accidents can happen and students have been injured at other schools and LOL is trying to prevent this as well as the negative commentary aimed at the Freshman. Informing parents of this type of change is not something the school normally does.

****Again, please submit your questions for the Athletic Director to answer at an upcoming meeting! TBA (possibly November) ****

Please email your questions to Christy and Dottie at cz@ConnectedSystemsCT.com drw214@gmail.com Your questions will be submitted anonymously.

The next PAB meeting will be on **November 16th at 6:30 PM** in the LOLHS Library/Media Center.

