

# LYME-OLD LYME Parent Advisory Board Minutes

October 18, 2017 7 PM-8:15PM

## Library Media Center

Jeanne Manfredi-Vice Principal, Dottie Wells-President, Lori Montazella-Secretary

Guest Speakers from LYSB-Mary Seidner, Christine Poscich

**Parent Representative Volunteers sought**, 3 or 4 parents needed to act as point of contact for other parents. 2 parents volunteered at meeting: Suzanne Wnek-email: suwnek@gmail.com and Paula Powers-email powersclan94@gmail.com Contact them to suggest topics, issues of interest.

**Follow up regarding questions on Chartwells**, billing etc. Contact Gary Holland with any issues. If not resolved to satisfaction, please reach out to Jim Wygonik or Jeanne Manfredi to assist.

### **Drugs at LOLHS Part 2:**

**Jeanne Manfredi** discussed drugs and the protocol school follows. In Summation:

If student is suspected of being under influence, student is escorted to Nurses' office for a Wellness Check, which consists of vital signs, blood pressure check, temperature, basic responsiveness. Parent is contacted with findings and the process goes from there, depending on what is found. If probable cause suspected, backpacks, pockets, lockers etc will be searched. Car searches are divided between what police can do and what school can do. If substance use confirmed, automatic 10 day suspension with recommendation for expulsion, depending on the severity. Superintendent Ian Nevaizer will then meet with parents. If expelled, there are alternative programs at Center School where student can continue their education using Canvas and communication with their teachers. Can do some agreed upon items such as Community Service which can shorten expulsion duration. This includes alcohol, any drugs, drug paraphenalia and nicotine(including vaping) which is illegal under 21. School is getting more cameras for parking lots. Parents should call school if drug and alcohol use is suspected on school grounds, after school activities, etc.

**Mary Seidner from LYSB** spoke about several issues regarding drugs, how to tell if someone is using, and the Juvenile Review Board, a pre-court diversionary option which is available in Old Lyme as a one time option for juveniles arrested, whether for illegal substances, shoplifting, disturbing the peace etc. **Christine Poscich, Prevention Coordinator for LYSB** also spoke regarding the Juvenile Review Board, which is run by the Youth Services Board. This is a CT state run one time only program and is very successful in turning a bad situation around for kids

in trouble, and avoids detention and legal repercussions. Call LYSB for more information.

High School has a similar board, the Restorative Practice Board. Noted by Jeanne Manfredi was that disciplinary actions against students are down by 85% this year. Important to know that also illegal is Vaping. Mary and Christine brought in several vaping items as well as items kids use for hiding drugs, etc. for parents to look at, which are not always obvious to the average person.

**The CASFY meeting, (Community Action for Substance Free Youth)** is held the first Tuesday of the month at LYSB, 7pm.

**The next Drug Take back day** will be Saturday, October 28, at the Old Lyme Firehouse from 10-2. Household prescription drugs, etc. can also be dropped off at Troop F in Westbrook and other 24 hr locations, easily found on Google.

Please contact the LYSB with any questions-there is help available for parents. Go to **LYSB.org** to sign up for a newsletter.

**Upcoming Programs at LOLHS:**

November 3 will consist of 1/2 day of classes and a 1/2 day of Wellness issues for students.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15.