

LOLHS Parent Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 14, 2018

6:30-8:00 pm

Library Media Center

Jim Wygonik, Principal, Dottie Wells & Jess Videll-Co-Presidents, Lori Montazella-Secretary

21st Century Rubric Expectations and Assessments:

Principal Jim Wygonik spoke of these assessments at the meeting. This is an assessment based on skills and concepts valued by community, not connected to content, and is a graduation "expectation." Teachers are trained to assess and grade using the **Rubric which is posted on Region 18 website**, where you can view the skills that your child is being assessed on. These expectations are assessed separately from grades using a 1-4 scale and can be viewed 2x per year with report cards on PowerSchool. These skills naturally will improve through HS, and are not necessarily connected to good grades. Feedback from colleges say that these skills are lacking in their students and they relate to social and emotional wellness. Each course taken in HS is connected to one of these soft skills and is what makes a well-rounded student. This is also an advantage for teachers who may not see everything a student has to offer based solely on grades, tests and homework as it adds another dimension to seeing the student's strengths which may not be measured in conventional ways and also how to improve these skills.

CRITICAL INCIDENT SAFETY PLAN:

Principal Wygonik completed an FBI, FEMA and DOJ endorsed course over the summer that has changed the way students are trained to react in a critical situation, based on studying past terroristic actions against citizens, which includes school shootings..... Basically, in a threatening school crisis situation that is becoming more frequent, **PROACTIVE** responses are better-no more sit, hide and wait. **GET UP AND MOVE**, put time and distance between yourself and harm. **ALERT, ASSESS and REACT** and this goes for all of us in our everyday lives out at movie theaters, restaurants, malls, etc.

This new way of reacting to Critical Situations is meant to empower the students, and make them understand that there is no **WRONG** way to react. Just do something to get away from harm that is presenting itself. No judgments on your responses, **JUST DO SOMETHING TO GET YOURSELF AWAY FROM HARM**. This is a new way of thinking and will be presented in an assembly to the students. Ask your child about it and start the conversation. Be as prepared as you can be in an **EMERGENCY SITUATION**. Have a plan within your family for responses, a meeting place, etc..

The Old Lyme Town Hall is the emergency meeting spot after a Critical Incident has taken place.

At the next meeting we will discuss warning signs for violence.

Please feel free to contact us with agenda ideas for future mtgs. All questions and concerns welcome!

Wishing you all Happy Holidays with family and friends. The next PAB meeting will be on **TUESDAY**, **January 8th**. Enjoy the Holidays!