



FOCUS ON EDUCATION

SUMMER 2023



Message from the Superintendent & Chair

Dear Members of the Lyme-Old Lyme Communities,

As we bring this school year to a close, we wish to thank the community for their ongoing support of our schools. What a year it was! This year our students and staff earned numerous accolades and awards. We excelled in academic achievement, athletics, musical performances and more, and are proud of each one of those accomplishments.

We hope you enjoy your summer and look forward to welcoming back our students and staff in August.

Ian Neviaser
Superintendent of Schools
Steven Wilson
Chair, Board of Education



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Please join the Board of Education for the following meetings.

- August 9, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Sept. 6, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Oct. 4, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Nov. 1, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM

Meetings are held in the Board of Education Conference Room at Center School, 49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme. Agendas, links to live-streams of meetings, and links to recordings of previous meetings are available at www.region18.org under the "District Info" tab.



: Lyme-Old Lyme Schools



: lolschoolsct



: lymeoldlymeschools

www.region18.org

Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School Named Middle School of the Year

The Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) named Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School the Middle School of the Year for the 2022-2023 school year. This recognition highlights the exceptional commitment of the school, its staff, and the entire community to providing an outstanding middle school education that fosters academic growth and social-emotional development.

CAS noted that one of the remarkable aspects of LOLMS is its strong emphasis on involving parents and the community in supporting student learning and healthy development. Throughout the school year, LOLMS hosts multiple events where community members can participate and engage with the school and its students. Events such as the National History Day Showcase, Career Day, Wellness Day, and Spring into the Arts provide opportunities for families and community members to contribute and support student learning.

LOLMS also offers exceptional academic support to students. The Learning Labs program provides tiered intervention support, including Academic Lab and Math Connections, to help students develop essential executive functioning skills and address math skill gaps. Regular updates and additional support from teachers ensure

that students receive the personalized attention they need to succeed.

CAS went on to note that the key characteristic of LOLMS is its continuous effort to review and improve educational programming. Through Learning Walks and classroom observations, teachers have the opportunity to learn from their colleagues and enhance their instructional practices. The school has also conducted a comprehensive review of its SRBI (Scientific Research-Based Interventions) program, incorporating best practices and refining intervention strategies to ensure all students receive an appropriately challenging education.

LOLMS prioritizes the significance of fostering healthy relationships and emotional support for students. Through counseling services, daily recess, and initiatives such as Pursuits, the advisory program where students are assigned to multi-age groups by interest in order to participate in shared activities such as wood burning and reading books to preschool students, students are encouraged to connect with trusted adults, develop friendships, and maintain a healthy balance in their lives.

Congratulations!



Holly McCalla accepting her award

Congratulations to Holly McCalla, business manager for Lyme-Old Lyme Schools.

McCalla is the recipient of the 2023 Celebrated Connecticut Business Official award given by the Connecticut Association of School Business Officials.

Congratulations to this year's top graduates!



Marielle Mather

Valedictorian Marielle Mather has been an avid reader since the moment she learned to read. In fact, the one and only time she was sent to the principal's office was in third grade for reading in class when she was supposed to be focusing her attention elsewhere. Mather has since honed her ability to focus and will be attending MIT this fall. She plans to pursue a combined physics and mechanical engineering degree, though she anticipates that could change.

Mather's biggest commitment during high school was as the co-captain of the Techno-Ticks robotics team. In addition to her captain duties, she served as the programming lead and as a robot driver and "put in a ridiculous number of hours" helping to contribute to the success of the team. Mather also participated in the math team, French Club, French Honor Society, Science Olympiad, and Envirothon Team. Her favorite subjects in school were mathematics and physics.

Athletics also played a part in her time at LOLHS. Mather has been a member of the crew team since her freshman year. She leaves having served as captain of the team and will be rowing Division 1 for MIT in the fall.

Mather will spend the summer working full time for Whelen Engineering in Chester and continuing to train for rowing with Blood Street Sculls. She plans to take courses in biology, chemistry, philosophy and calculus for fun.

Anna Davis

Salutatorian Anna Davis is headed to Northeastern University this fall where she will study mechanical engineering as part of the university honors program.

During her time at LOLHS, Davis was president of the student advisory council, a co-captain of the Techno-Ticks robotics team, served as class treasurer, worked on the stage crew for a musical, was a member of the National Honor Society and the Latin Honor Society, as well as participated in the REACH coalition through LYSB.

Davis takes art classes outside of school and enjoys expressing her creativity. She has volunteered as a camp counselor at the Connecticut River Museum and will do so again this summer. During her spare time, she is designing a battle bot.



Harry Whitten

Honor Essayist Harry Whitten will attend the University of Michigan this fall and intends to major in computer engineering with a minor in Spanish. He will be participating in the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Whitten's favorite class was AP calculus with Mrs. Geletkancyz. During his time at LOLHS, Whitten was a member of the cross country indoor and outdoor track teams, participated in the math team, the athletic leadership council, the National Spanish Honor Society, and the National Honor Society.

Harry enjoys running, skiing, fishing, camping and traveling. He has fond memories of many camping trips with the Cub Scouts.

Whitten will be working at the Carousel Shop this summer and will attend New Student Indoctrination (NSI) for two and a half weeks, which is basic training for the Navy ROTC. He looks forward to visiting family in Peru for several weeks.



Lyme-Old Lyme Schools

49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371

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Please join us in recognizing the following retirees for their many years of service to the communities of Lyme and Old Lyme:

Kathleen Hancock

Elementary Teacher at Mile Creek School

31 years of service

Gary Inglis

Campus Security at Lyme School

5 years of service

Colleen Rodriguez

School Counselor at LOLHS

23 years of service

Melissa Walden

Technology Facilitator at Lyme School

4 years of service

Lucy Walter

Science Teacher at LOLHS

20 years of service



Melissa Walden, Gary Inglis, Colleen Rodriguez



Kathleen Hancock

The Regional School District 18 Board of Education prohibits harassment and discrimination in educational programs, services, or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, military or veteran status, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, genetic information, sexual orientation, or past or present physical or mental disability in accordance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1991, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and appropriate state laws.