

# Greater Lowell Technical High School welcomes parents, guardians to 2021 back to school night



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TYNGSBORO — Greater Lowell Technical High School opened its doors for its annual back to school night on Oct. 7, giving parents and guardians a chance to attend classes just like their students do.

Each year the parents and guardians of Gryphons are invited to attend a brief version of their child's daily class schedule. Back to School night offers parents a chance to visit the shops and classrooms to meet instructors, ask questions, and learn about expectations, curriculum, methods of assessment, extra help and support resources.

In addition, representatives from the School Counseling Department, the Cooperative Education Program, Student Activities, the Main Office, the English Language Parent Advisory Council, the Special Education Parent Advisory Council, and the Greater Lowell Tech Parent Organization were on hand.

Back to School Night had to be virtual last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but this time everyone followed health and safety protocols and once again toured the halls with guidance from student ambassadors.

“It was great to see so many parents exploring our school and the same classrooms and shops their children learn and grow in,” Superintendent Jill Davis said. “We’re proud of Greater Lowell Technical High School and value the school-family partnership. A night like tonight helps to strengthen that.”

Lori Gingras, of Dracut, attended Back To School Night and her daughter Abbey served as a student ambassador. Gingras said she has attended the event three of the four years her daughter has been at the school, and was impressed each time.

“Each classroom I went to the teachers gave us a syllabus and explained everything from start to finish. I asked a lot of questions and they explained everything in detail,” Lori Gingras said. “I’m just impressed that the school is so well run, and the teachers really do care about the students and really want to see the kids succeed.”

Abbey Gingras said she hopes the event will help all parents see the individualized focus teachers place on each student, and how the school helps students recognize not only their power to succeed at academics, but also the power that each individual possesses.

Jane Muriithi and Juliet Ndegwa, the mother and older sister of student Alex Ndegwa, noted the size of the school building, but also how easy it was to speak with and interact with staff.

“I’m impressed by all the opportunities here,” Juliet Ndegwa said. “Everything is very career-focused.”

“We really hope parents get a snapshot of what their children see on a daily basis, the educational experience and commitment of staff,” said Tracy Encarnacao, director of school counseling. “Our job is to open doors, and we work really hard to ensure every student is building a foundation to go anywhere.”