

Largo High

PTSA[®]

everychild. one voice.[®]

May 2017 Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 8



President's Letter



Well, it is here! The final days of the school year. You can just feel the excitement, giddiness, and sheer joy in the community and on our campus – and that's just the teachers!

In all seriousness, as I type this, I am preparing to attend our LHS graduation ceremony. I was invited by a student. One that I have had the pleasure of getting to know well over the past year. She was a bright spot in my week. I always looked forward to our talks and games. I will miss her, but I look forward to seeing her soar towards her goals.

Our PTSA year is also coming to a close. It has been a great year! Your 2016-2017 Executive Board has worked hard, devoting many volunteer hours to advocate for our

students, families, and our school. We have provided programs, events, and educational opportunities for everyone. While working alongside other volunteers made up of parents, students, teachers, staff, and community members, we were able to reach our goals of collaboration, diversity, commitment, respect, and accountability.

Your newly elected officers are enthusiastic and eager to get started with their plans! In fact, they have already begun looking ahead to next school year. We will be attending a few trainings and meeting together to set things in motion. However, we can't reach our goals without help from others. Your elected officers for the 2017-2018 school year are looking for people interested in joining our board and/or holding chair positions. If you, or someone you know, would like to learn more about the open positions, and PTSA, please have them contact us via email at ptsalargohigh@gmail.com.

This newsletter is our final recap of activities held this year. We had a blast! I personally want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your LHS PTSA President this year. I know my fellow board members enjoyed the journey as well. It was a lot of work, but the children and our schools are worth every minute.

#AllChildrenAreOurChildren

To all our graduates, I implore you to remember who you are as you begin your next steps. You all have been given talents and potential to guide you on a path meant just for you. As the journey begins, I hope you embrace it!

*"Behind you, are all your memories.
Before you, all your dreams.
Around you, all who love you.
Within you, all you need."*

*Sincerely,
Michelle Alfred
Largo High PTSA | President
2016-2017*

Important Dates

June

- 22nd-25th - NPTA Convention, Las Vegas, NV

July

- 13th-16th - FPTA Leadership Convention

August

- 10th - First Day of School, 2017-2018

FAMILY SPIRIT NIGHTS

Thanks to everyone for supporting our Family Spirit Nights this year! Be sure to like and follow us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/ptsalargohigh, so you can keep up with our happenings over the summer. We may host a summer event, and you never know who you might run into...



Dr. Finkbiner came out to support our April Spirit Night at Sonny's BBQ. Here he is pictured with Gideon, our guitar player on that night.

First Night Bags - Service Project



May is National Foster Care month. In observance, your Largo High PTSA and National Honor Society (NHS) worked together to sponsor a "First Night Bag" collection drive. We asked for donations of basic hygiene items, as well as comfort items, that children and youth would need on their first night in a new home. NHS students worked hard to make sure we received plenty of donations to fill the bags!

Placements often happen quickly, and these bags will allow the foster family to focus on showing love and hospitality to the child, instead of running to the store for supplies. On Tuesday, May 9th, representatives from both groups presented over 250 bags to the Pinellas County Foster and Adoptive Parent Association!

Our thanks to Publix Corporate Offices for donating 100 reusable shopping bags, as well as TJ Maxx, for their donation of 25 bags. The rest were donated by PTSA and our members.

For more information on Fostering a child, visit [Eckerd Kids](http://EckerdKids.com).

Blind Sight 20/20

A Presentation on the Dangers of Drunk Driving



Your LHS PTSA collaborated with Largo High's Administration Team to bring in a program on the dangers of drunk driving. We held the program the week before prom for all juniors and seniors, during 3rd and 4th periods.



Derrick Jenkins, a public speaker, and founder of Blight Sight 20/20, came to share his emotional story with our scholars. Many students spoke with Derrick after the presentation, letting him know how impacted they were by his message. We are #PTAProud to be able to work together with our school administrators to share important awareness program with our scholars. Your LHS PTSA is committed to improving the education, health, and safety of all children.

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Program

Largo High PTSA hosted a program on April 27th to raise awareness of Teen Dating Violence. It was presented by a representative from the Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force, Ellen Woll. Parents, students, educators, and community members were all in attendance! This was our last general meeting of the school year.

Attendees learned why dating violence is a public health problem; how it affects the health and well-being of our youth; who is at risk; and what we can do to prevent dating violence. It was a powerful program that informed and educated all who attended on this wide-spread topic.



We Our LHS Teachers and Staff!

During the week of May 8th-12th, we celebrated our Teachers and Staff for all that they do for our scholars. Our LHS Faculty and Staff deliver so much to our students—inspiration, motivation and, ultimately, their futures. We decided to show them our gratitude each day during this week.

Monday, began with a little "burst of appreciation". Tuesday, we hosted a sit-down luncheon "Havana" style. Wednesday, we set up an "open bar", with candy of course! Our community helped us with Thursday, providing some great coupons and discounts to all 165 faculty and staff. And finally, Friday, we let them know we were "nuts" about them with the help of Bulk Nation in Largo Mall. Check out some of the pics here, and on our Facebook page, @ptsalargohigh!



Student helpers were Heather Angles, Taylor Petz, Gideon Alfred... getting direction from Melanie Litchy LHS PTSA Hospitality Chair!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the volunteers that helped with our programs and events this school year!

Sandra Marcotte

Michelle Capozzi

Tina Wagner

Dawn DeRemer

Kristen Bui

Mai-Linh Johnson - student

Lisa Beck

Julia Violante - student



MacKenzie Balcarce - student

Sherrie Clark

Gary Alfred

Gideon Alfred - student

Heather Angles - student

Rick Stotts

Taylor Petz - student

Tina Angles

Thanks to the following businesses and organizations for their support this year! Your partnership with us helped broaden and enhance our ability to serve and advocate for all children, families, and our school.

Havana Harry's

Olive Garden

Your Pizza Shop

Bath and Body Works

Village Inn (Walsingham Rd.)

Panda Express (E. Bay)

Tires Plus (E. Bay)

Lowe's (Ulmerton)

Massage Envy

Walmart

Wilcox Nursery

Make A Break Escape

Cozy Corner

Nascar Car Wash

Wildflower Café

Dr. Katie Merricks

Florida Museum of

Photographic Arts

Sonny's BBQ

Keller's Automotive

Moe's Southwest Grill

Congo River Mini Golf

Chick Fil A - Largo

Bubba Gump Shrimp

Culver's - E. Bay Drive

Publix Corporation

TJ Maxx

McIntyre Family Foundation

Regions Bank

Largo Police Department

PCSO

PCDVTF

Blind Sight 20/20

B.A.C.A. - Bikers Against

Child Abuse

Eckerd Community

Alternatives

CiCis Pizza

RCS - Food Pantry

Clothes to Kids

LHS National Honor Society

LHS National English Honor

Society

Panera Bread

JAMS Produce

Bulk Nation

Winn Dixie



2016-2017 LHS PTSA Executive Board



*In order from left to right: Michelle Alfred, Debbie Stotts, Anjanette Ellwood, Logan Brawner, Keith Sargent, Jacey Velazquez, Laura Whitfield, Jon Marina
Not pictured: Brenda Chevere, Brenda Brunelle, Kelly Violante, Melanie Litchy, Maria Black*

On Friday, May 19th a few members of your LHS PTSA Executive Board attended the Pinellas County Council PTA end of year banquet. During the banquet, awards are given to local units in various categories. Your LHS PTSA brought home 8 awards! They are: Golden Participation Award, Excellence in Advocacy Award, Legislative Award, Student Group Participation Award, Newsletter Award, Membership Award, Administrator Award, and Support Staff Award. Mr. Marina won the Administrator Award and Ms. Brock the Support Staff Award. We chose to nominate them based on their help and support for LHS PTSA and the overall PTA mission.



Congratulations to our LHS PTSA Elected Officers for 2017-2018!

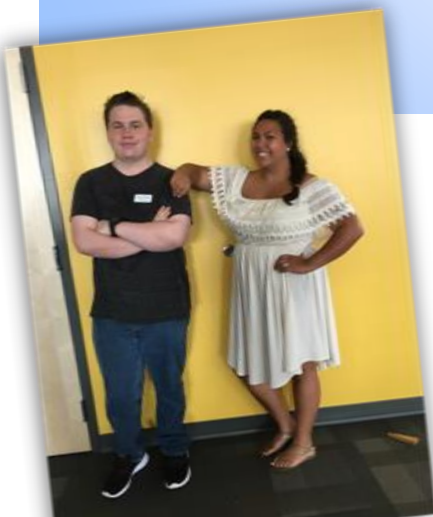
President - Michelle Alfred

Vice President - Anjanette Ellwood

Secretary - Tina Angles

Treasurer - Debbie Stotts

If you are interested in being a part of our board, and/or serving as a chair for one of our committees, please email ptsalargohigh@gmail.com, or phone [727-492-6160](tel:727-492-6160). We would love to tell you more!



*Thank you to our student
representatives for serving on our
2016-2017 LHS PTSA board!
Logan Brawner and Jacey Velazquez*

Students, if you are interested in serving on the PTSA board for next year, email ptsalargohigh@gmail.com. You can earn volunteer hours, learn leadership skills, share ideas, and learn how to advocate for you, your friends, and your school!

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Newsletter Chair, Maria Black
President, Michelle Alfred

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