

September 2017 Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2



Largo High PTSA®

everychild. one voice.®

President's Letter



Hello Packers!

What a start to September! Is anyone else having conflicting feelings of being grateful amid the chaos? I hope your families and friends fared well through the storm, and a sense of "normal" is starting to take hold again. Our newsletter is coming out a bit later than we planned, but the information is still relevant and includes details for our upcoming events. Please be sure to mark your calendars and make plans to attend!

We will be holding a general membership meeting on Wednesday, September 20th, beginning with light refreshments at 6:15pm. The meeting begins promptly at 6:30pm in the Research Center. We will conduct brief PTA business, and hear from Largo City Manager, Henry

Schubert, about Penny for Pinellas and its impact in Largo. Afterwards, we will have a presentation entitled "Ending the Silence" from NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness). Through the presentation, students learn symptoms and indicators of mental illness, and are given ideas about how to help themselves, friends, or family members who may be in need of support. Additionally, the presentation includes personal testimony from a young adult living with a mental illness about his/her journey to recovery. Please consider joining us for this informative and impactful evening.

We are very excited to report that we currently have over 300 members in the Largo High PTSA! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of all OUR children and youth by becoming a member. We are #PTAProud to tell you the very first member for the year was our principal, Dr. Finkbiner, followed immediately by our entire administrative team: Mr. Marina, Mr. Wolfenden, Mr. Liem, and Ms. Ray. We are excited by all the parents, grandparents, students, faculty, staff and community who joined LHS

PTSA so far! Everyone's membership matters! Another department among our LHS staff that reached 100% in memberships was our Guidance Counselors! Our plant operators became the final department to reach 100% in the month of August. We look forward to seeing which department will be next!

I hope to see many of you at Sonny's BBQ on September 27th for our next Family Engagement Spirit Night. These events help fund the plan of work for your LHS PTSA this school year. Please consider supporting us...by not cooking. ☺

Many more programs and projects are planned for this year. Your support through membership, attendance at the events/programs, or volunteering to help is what makes them a success. I am looking forward to seeing the continued growth of our award winning PTSA!

Sincerely,

*Michelle Alfred
Largo High PTSA | President
Working Together for All Children!*

Important Dates

September

- 4th - Labor Day, No School
- 20th - PTA General Meeting, NAMI Program, 6:30p.m. Research Center
- 27th - Family Spirit Night
Sonny's BBQ Seminole Blvd.

October

- 1st - 31st - Non-Perishable Food Drive for RCS
- 5th - Meet Your Legislator Event (MYL) Senator Brandes & Representative Latvala, 6:30p.m.
- 11th - Faculty and Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- 20th - Homecoming Game, 7pm Packer Stadium
- 21st - Homecoming Dance
- 23rd - 27th - Red Ribbon Week

November

- 1st - Reflections Entries Due Date
Turn in to Ms. Wolfe in Research Center
- 15th - PTA General Meeting, 211 Presentation & Reflections Recognition, 6:30pm
- 20th-21st - Students Offering Support Service Project
- 20th - 24th - Thanksgiving Holiday, No School
- 27th - Linens for Love Collection Drive Begins

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Please come out and support the Largo High PTSA
Wednesday, September 27th
at the Largo Sonny's BBQ!

Simply show them a copy of the flyer below, paper or digitally on your phone, and a percentage of the total sales from 11a.m. – 9:30p.m. will be donated to the Largo High PTSA.



JOIN US AT OUR LARGO LOCATION ON

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

AND WE'LL DONATE A PERCENTAGE OF THE MONEY RAISED
THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE DAY (11AM-9:30PM) BACK TO:

Largo High PTSA

****MUST HAVE FLYER OR SHOW ON MOBILE DEVICE TO RECEIVE CREDIT****

CAN BE USED IN TAKEOUT, DRIVE THRU, DINE IN, AND CATERING ORDERS.
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

2250 Seminole Blvd., Largo, FL 33778
727-501-9000

GENERAL MEETING AND PROGRAM

Wednesday September 20, 2017



NAMI Ending the Silence



What is NAMI Ending the Silence?

NAMI Ending the Silence is a presentation designed to give students and adults an opportunity to learn about mental illness through an informative Power Point and short videos. Through the presentation, students and adults learn symptoms and indicators of mental illness, and are given ideas about how to help themselves, friends, or family members who may be in need of support. Additionally, the presentation includes personal testimony from a young adult living with a mental illness about his/her journey to recovery.

NAMI Pinellas, the local organization of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, will offer its next NAMI Ending the Silence presentation on **Wednesday, Sept 20th**. It will be held at **6:30pm at Largo High School, in the Research Center**.



Audience Perspectives

"It is amazing what just one day, one talk can do. You never really know what's going on in the brain of any particular student." -Teacher

"I'm really grateful and glad that you talked to us. I often feel very alone or weird because many kids my age don't understand. But, now I'm sure they would be more supportive of me." -Student



PENNY FOR PINELLAS

Also, on Sept 20th, information will be presented on the Penny for Pinellas Referendum. Come hear what the Penny for Pinellas is all about, before you cast your vote on November 7th!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH – 6:30PM, LHS RESEARCH CENTER

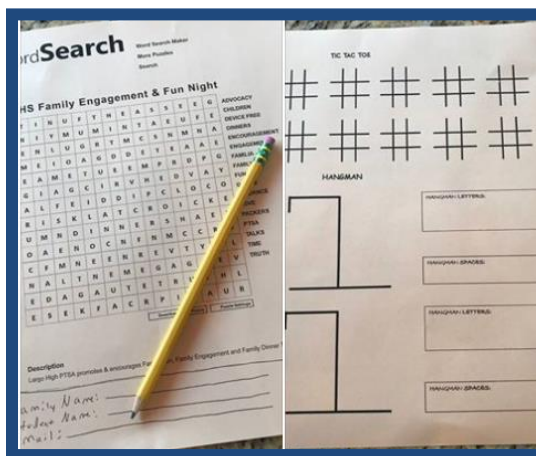
Everyone (age 14 and up) is welcome to attend; parents, students, care-givers, faculty, staff and community. Hope to see you there!



FAMILY SPIRIT ENGAGEMENT NIGHTS



Our Panda Express Night was a huge success! We held our August Parent Engagement Night at the Largo Panda Express on East Bay Drive. Your LHS PTSA was able to register members, dine with new friends and old, sold some school spirit items and enjoyed family engagement games at the tables. Our very own Mrs. Seitz was the grand winner of our "Fat Panda" Basket. The donated basket included a t-shirt, stuffed pandas, three free entree item cards, a one first time guest pass and of course, fortune cookies! Mrs. Seitz won the luck of the fortune this month!



100% PLANT OPERATOR MEMBERSHIPS

What was that?? 100% of our LHS Plant Operations Team has joined our Largo High PTSA. Way to go everyone! We are so honored to have such awesome plant operators whom we love and respect! (Second year in a row guys) #OTP



HURRICANE HARVEY

It's not late. You can still make a difference. Consider helping a fellow PTA – Texas PTA. Please be sure to visit them at [Texas PTA \(www.txpta.org\)](http://www.txpta.org) and make a donation today. Talk with your children about how they can make a difference in another teenager's life during a crisis and understand the importance of giving.

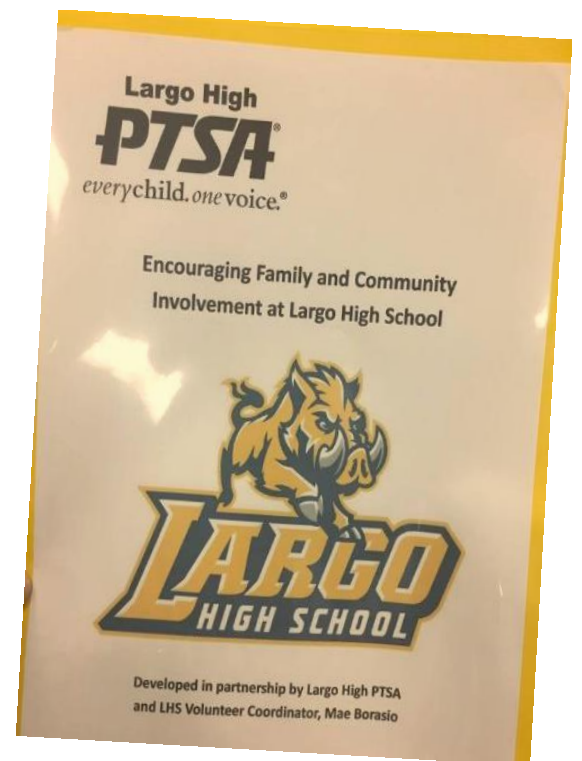
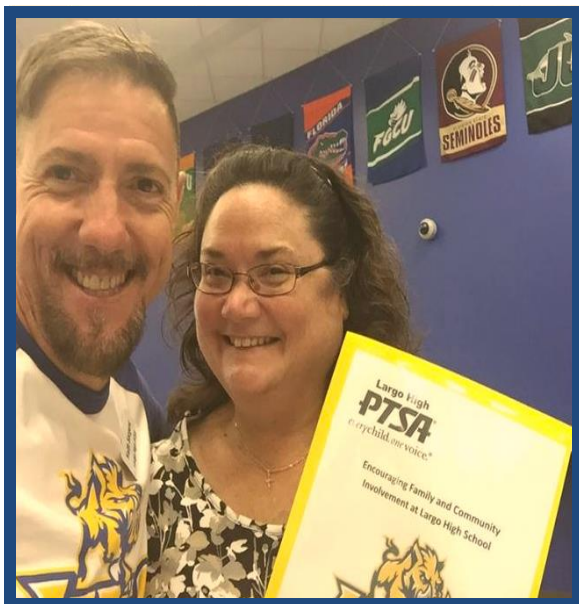
AP HUGS PARENT NIGHT

Mr. Kaplan held an informational meeting to provide details to parents about the rigor of the AP Human Geography course and how parents can encourage their student towards success. We were honored to be asked to be a part of this event. In addition to providing hospitality and refreshments, your PTSA had time to speak about PTA, our Reflections program, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Kaplan, for the partnership. We had an APsolute blast!



PARENT AND GUARDIAN BREAKFAST

First day of high school and what is a parent or guardian to do so early??? Hopefully you joined us for donuts and coffee! We hosted a first day Parent Gathering for our parents and guardians with students attending Largo High. We had over 75 in attendance. PTSA signed up memberships, answered questions, provided guidance, encouraged volunteering, handed out folders with school and PTA information, and provided a great opportunity for our parents and guardians to meet with others, including a couple of our Assistant Principals, who had a moment to stop by.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Join Largo High PTSA!

Click link for a membership form:

[2017-2018 Membership Form](#)



Packer Spirit Items Available for Purchase

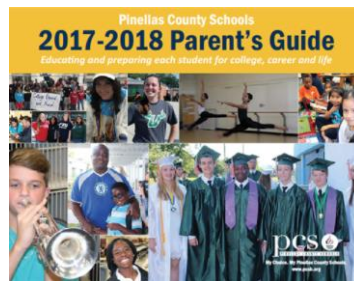
Click link for order form

[School Spirit Order Form](#)



2017-2018 PCS Parent Guide

Find it here: [PCS Parent Guide](#)



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS!



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR LHS PTSA BUSINESS PARTNERS AND PATRONS FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

[#ItTakesAVillage](#)

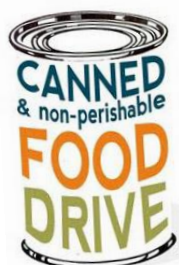
- UPS STORE
- WEST COAST AUTO CENTERS (WEST BAY DR)
- DUNKIN DONUTS (SEMINOLE BLVD)
- SONNY'S (SEMINOLE BLVD)
- DUBLIN HOUSE PUB (SEMINOLE BLVD)
- BULK NATION (LARGO MALL)
- JAM'S PRODUCE (CLW/LARGO RD)
- PANDA EXPRESS (E. BAY DR.)

HURRICANE PREPARED LIST

COURTESY OF ABC ACTION NEWS

What your disaster supply kit should contain:

- Water - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days
- Food - at least enough for 3 to 7 days
- Non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices
- Foods for infants or the elderly
- Snack foods
- Non-electric can opener
- Cooking tools / fuel
- Paper plates / plastic utensils
- Blankets / Pillows, etc.
- Clothing - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes
- First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs
- Special Items - for babies and the elderly
- Toiletries - hygiene items
- Moisture wipes
- Flashlight / Batteries
- Radio - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio
- Cash - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.
- Keys
- Toys, Books and Games
- Important documents - in a waterproof container
- Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.
- Document all valuables with videotape if possible
- Tools - keep a set with you during the storm
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled
- Pet care items
 - Proper identification / immunization records
 - Ample supply of food and water
 - A carrier or cage
 - Medications
 - Muzzle and leash



Non-Perishable Food Drive Collection to benefit RCS October 1 – October 31, 2017

We need your help to replenish supplies given out to those in need after Hurricane Irma. Collection bins will be available in the front office, research center, and the bus entrance. LHS clubs that would like to participate may compete for a pizza party! The club that brings in the most cans (*percentage based on number of members*) will receive a pizza party from the LHS PTSA! More details to follow! Please email ptsalargohigh@gmail.com with any questions.

COME MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 5th



Meet Your Legislator

Florida State Senator Jeff Brandes
and
Florida State House Representative
Chris Latvala

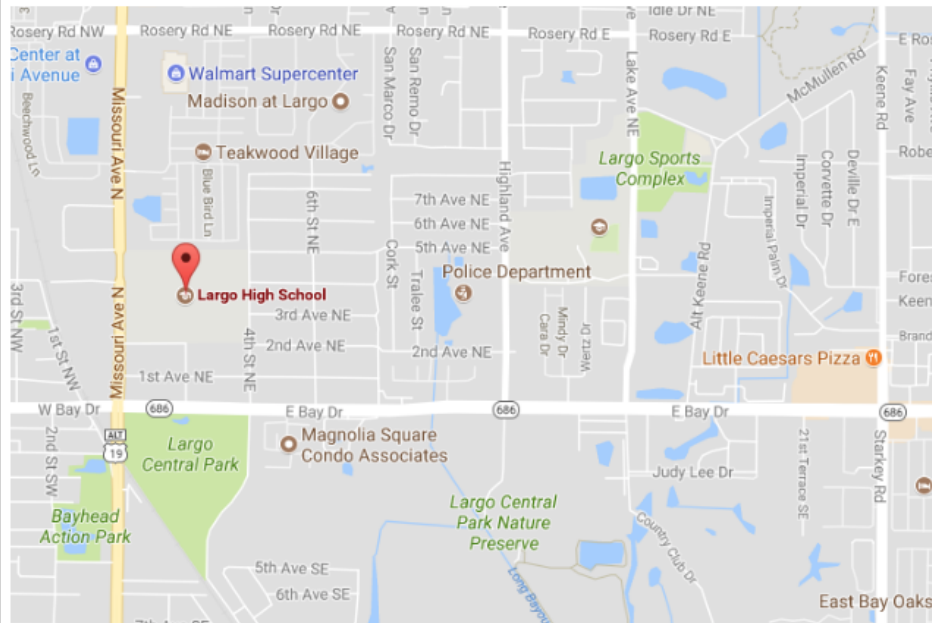
Hosted by Largo High School PTA
At Largo High School
410 Missouri Ave, Largo, FL 33770
Thursday, October 5, 2017
6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Join us to share concerns and exchange ideas about public education with your elected representative. Parents, teachers, school administrators, SAC members, PTA members, and *all* interested community members are encouraged to attend. Stay connected to your decision-makers in Tallahassee!

Senator Jeff Brandes and Representative Chris Latvala will make a brief presentation beginning at 6:30 pm, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Check the Pinellas County Council PTA website at WWW.PCCPTA.ORG for information on other scheduled events.

If you are unsure who your Legislators are please visit the 'Advocacy Info' page on the PCCPTA website to 'Find Your Legislator'.



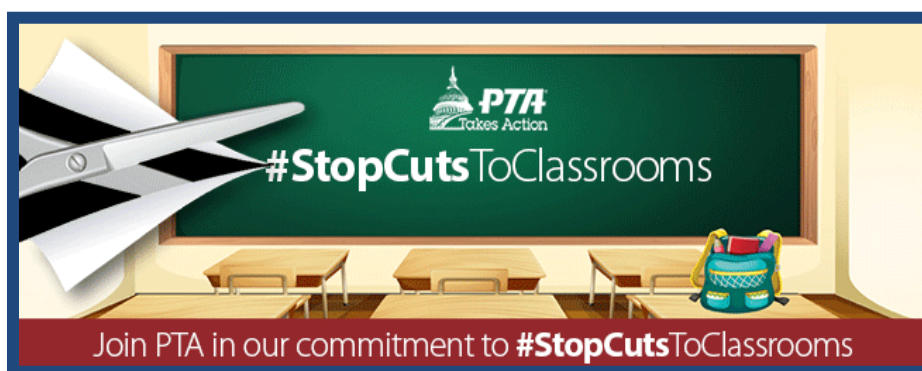
Voter Voice - Legislative Alerts



Sign up for Florida PTA's Take Action Network to learn more about legislative issues affecting families, schools, and communities and to stay informed on the latest updates from Tallahassee.

By registering for Florida PTA's Take Action Network, you will be joining over 300,000 child advocates in Florida that support and speak up for children, (**REGISTRATION MUST BE UPDATED YEARLY** – If you have signed up previously, please do so again today!)

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)



Stop Cuts to Classrooms

Federal funding for public education programs has remained at 2% of the federal budget for decades, despite the increase in public school enrollment and the rising cost of education resources and services. This disparity between funding levels and actual costs means that the federal government has essentially enacted cuts to classrooms.

The federal government's deadline to fund the government for the next year is Sept. 30, 2017. If you would like the United States to have a strong economy powered by a well-educated workforce that can compete on the global stage, then stand with four million parents, teachers, students and community leaders as we demand that Congress #STOPCutsToClassrooms and invest more than 2% in public education before the next fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2017.

What Can You Do as a PTA Advocate to STOP Cuts to Classrooms

Take Action: Sign the petition requesting that more than 2% of the federal budget be reserved for public education!



CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

2017 - 2018

Once every twenty years, Florida's Constitution provides for the creation of a thirty-seven member revision commission for the purpose of reviewing Florida's Constitution and proposing changes for voter consideration. The Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) is composed of the Attorney General, fifteen appointees from the Governor, nine appointees from the Florida Senate President, nine appointees from the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives and three appointees from the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court. The CRC meets for approximately one year, holding public hearings, examining the Florida Constitution, identifying issues, performing research and possibly recommending changes to the Florida Constitution. Any amendments proposed by the CRC would be placed on the 2018 General Election ballot. Any amendments placed on the ballot by the CRC would have to secure 60 percent approval by voters to be added to the Florida Constitution.

The Constitution Revision Commission is considering September 22 as the deadline for accepting proposals.

How to submit a proposal to the Constitution Revision Commission:

- Go to flcrc.gov
- Register for a free account and log in.
- Click on 'Submit a Proposal' and follow the steps, which will help people file a proposal using legal language.
- Proposals take up to three business days to post on the CRC website.
- People can also submit a proposal by handing it in at a meeting of the commission, or via email to admin@flcrc.gov or by mail to the Constitution Revision Commission, The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee FL 32399

Source: flcrc.gov

Get Engaged... Be Engaged... Stay Engaged

www.facebook.com/ptsalargohigh



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