



The Lightning Bolt



Brought to you by the Long Reach High School PTSA

Volume 13 Issue 1 – August 2008

“REACH” – What it means to our learning community:

THE **R**espect **E**xcellence **A**cademics **C**haracter **H**onor

Welcome Back to Long Reach High!

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Alicia Slahetka and I have been elected as the new PTSA President for the 2008-2009 school year. I am very excited to be the leader of this group and look forward to meeting many of you over the next year. I have been a PTA President for over six years at Waterloo Elementary, Bellows Spring Elementary, Elkridge Landing Middle and now Long Reach. I have enjoyed working with all the parents, teachers and students and I am ready to begin a great year reuniting with many of you.

A new school year is beginning again and the cooler air will be arriving soon. Some are happy for the return of a regular schedule and many will miss the lazy days of summer. As the students head back to school and the days are getting shorter, the Long Reach PTSA is rolling up their sleeves and getting to work. We have many goals for this year and we desperately need your support.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at school and we hope you will offer your services whenever you can. We are asking that every parent find something that they can do to help with the school. We have many opportunities and it does make a difference. Included with this newsletter is a volunteer checklist. Please take a moment to fill out the form and send it back to school. I hear all the time that parents do not volunteer because their student says that they do not want you to be around school. Well we can find ways for you to be involved and not even embarrass them (unless of course you want to). We are a volunteer organization that is only as good as the people who help. Parent volunteers are an important key to our success and if you are able to volunteer your time, it would be noticed and much appreciated.

I have an open door policy for the parents of Long Reach and you may contact me at 13HTSlahetka@aol.com with your comments or concerns.

I am confident that this will be a great year.

Fondly,
Alicia Slahetka
President, Long Reach PTSA

BACK to SCHOOL NIGHT
September 9th
7:00 – 9:00 PM

Please make plans to attend Back to School night. This is a chance to learn what is going on at Long Reach this year and to look around the school and meet your student's teachers and the administrators as well as join the PTSA and Boosters.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Greetings from Long Reach High School, HOME OF THE LIGHTNING!!!

Welcome to a new school year at the 'REACH... Respect, Excellence, Academics, Character and Honor'. **REACHING For SUCCESS** will be the 2008-09 theme for our outstanding learning community. I hope that you are enjoying your summer and are planning for a highly successful school year as we move closer to the first day of the new school year on 25 August 2008. I am extremely thrilled and honored to continue to be the principal of Long Reach High School. Although this is my sixth year as the principal, it is my thirteenth year as an administrator at Long Reach High School and my overall 31st year serving the staff, students and community members of the Howard County Public School System. This is a truly great school system and LRHS is truly a great school. This will be the LRHS 'Lightning lucky 13th' year of operation.

I want to welcome our new staff members for this year. Mark Hanssen-English, Christine Bickel-Health, Kristine Henry-Math, Jennifer Whiddon, Anthonie Bond-Social Studies/RAP, Melissa Boardman, Joshua Davey, Matthew Kreitzer all Special Education, I am also happy to announce that Mr. Edgar Batenga, Mr. Clovis Thomas, Ms. Rose Friss will be returning to LRHS as part of our veteran administrative team. Ms. Karen Russo, assistant principal, has been transferred to Glenelg High School. I want to welcome Ms. Megan Senisi from Centennial High School. Megan has been recently promoted to an assistant principal and will be joining the LRHS administrative team for 'Lucky 13'.

We expect to open our newly carpeted administrative offices and Guidance suite to nearly 1230 students on 25 August 08. This number is a slight decrease from last year. Growth in enrollment capacity is expected to remain about the same for these next two years. Because we have planned for demographic changes in the past, there will not be any changes in programs and course offerings. It is our intent, as a school, to anticipate and prepare for growth and change before it occurs. By doing so, transitions from change will be efficient and will enable us to become even more effective as an educational institution and learning community. We will maintain three portable classrooms at the back of the building to accommodate student numbers in select special programs. Our staff is prepared to meet the individual needs of our students in the most effective, caring manner possible.

I am also pleased to announce some of our new initiatives that we have in place for the upcoming year in an effort to maintain a positive home-school relationship. Teachers of Math, Science, Social Studies, World Languages, and English will maintain an on-line grade book. This will allow parents to monitor student progress and to be informed about upcoming assignments, missed work, attendance, and general correspondence. Also, we will continue to employ "School Messenger", an automated call-out program to notify you regarding student attendance. This program will also provide homes with automated messages of up-coming events and important news pertaining to our Long Reach family.

Counseling Office Evening Hours

The Counseling Office will be providing evening hours once a week on Wednesday evenings from 2:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. starting September 10, 2008. A counselor will be available to meet with parents to discuss any questions or concerns a parent may have regarding their student. Appointments are preferable but drop-in's are always welcome.

Finally, I would like to take advantage of this newsletter throughout the academic year to share a variety of informational items with you. This first edition is being published much earlier than in the past to accommodate our families new to the area and to ensure that all informational items would be disseminated in a timely manner. Please be assured that I will address not only general school related issues, but also those informational items that impact your student's academic schedules and programs.

The PTSA Newsletter has been a major communications resource for my staff and myself. I would like to emphasize two other major communication resources that have further evolved these last few years into outstanding opportunities to gain up-to-date LRHS School information. They are eSchoolNewsletter and the Long Reach High School web site.

The eSchool Systems was formed in an effort to provide principals with a tool to communicate with parents and students. The resource currently in use by thousands of users is the Electronic School Newsletter (eSchoolNewsletter.com).

With its ease-of-use features, eSchoolNewsletter is an excellent choice to communicate effectively with parents and students in areas of scholastics, social events, fundraising, PTSA announcements and other important information. Long Reach High School has dramatically expanded the use of eSchoolNewsletter and has found that our membership is rapidly expanding.

This is how It Works...

Parents sign up to receive their school's newsletter, special announcements and emergency notifications by visiting www.eschoolnewsletter.com. Parents can enter both home and work emails and sign up to four different schools from one screen. Through the eSchoolNewsletter system, principals and county officials can email important news and information directly to students and parents. For the most part, Long Reach has been sending out information as required. The Long Reach High School "Lightning Ledger" is sent on a weekly basis. It is a schedule of the major school related events for the week.

Parents can read their eSchoolNewsletter from home or office at their leisure. In addition, parents can edit their profile information at any time.

Stay Connected.... [Sign up Today](#)

The Long Reach High School Web site is really cool... because "Thunder is impressive but it is Lightning that does the work!" -Mark Twain. We will be periodically up-dating this site throughout the school year.

Please note this additional important information:

THE FIRST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR STUDENTS-

Monday, August 25 at 7:25 a.m.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION - An orientation session for freshmen and all other students new to Long Reach High School will be held on Thursday, August 21, 8 am and will begin in the auditorium. It would definitely be to each new student's advantage to attend this orientation session. Although the orientation program is designed primarily for students, parents may attend. **Please be sure to bring a copy of your schedule to the orientation session.**

SPECIAL REMINDER... Behavior/Dress codes/Cell phones...etc/Food-Drinks - Behavior and dress codes for students have been established. Above all, these policies are based on respect for one another and the need to establish a safe, orderly, caring, challenging, and business-like learning environment. You should know ahead of time that hats or head wear of any kind (with the exception of religious garb) may not be worn by students inside the school building on any school day prior to dismissal time at 2:10 p.m. Clothing which contains profanity, promotes or advertises the use of substances the possession of which is illegal or illegal for those under specific ages (including drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products), or clothing which indicates gang affiliation may not be worn on school property by our students. The following clothing is also not allowed: Pants worn so low as to reveal underwear; tube tops; halter tops that tie or wrap around the neck; shirts that cover only one shoulder; tops that reveal the entire back or middle portion of the back; shorts and skirts that do not meet the fingertips (at least to the tip of the index finger) when arms are to the side; shirts that are cut to reveal cleavage; lingerie or underwear worn as clothing; shirts that reveal more than an inch of midriff or stomach; skirt slits that are more than 6 inches from the knee cap. These items are not permitted to be worn even with "cover-ups" such as jackets, shirts, coats, or any other clothing designed to cover nonacceptable attire. Those students who violate the dress code after having received one warning could face disciplinary action.

In addition, the use of cell phones, radios, including walkman radios, tape players, etc., are not permitted by students prior to dismissal time at 2:10 p.m. These items, therefore, are not to be displayed by students prior to 2:10 p.m. on school days. If staff members see these items, these items could be confiscated.

Because the school has been upgraded with new carpet, the no eating/drinking policy in other than approved areas of the building will be strictly enforced. Food/Drinking products will be confiscated if this policy is violated.

IN REVIEW...

1) **HATS, CELL PHONES, WALKMEN, CD PLAYERS, IPODS, HEADPHONES, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, SUNGLASSES** are not to be seen during the school-day – when students walk through the front door until the dismissal bell rings @ 2:10 p.m.

2) **STUDENT PLANNERS** (All students receive free of charge) will be the OFFICIAL "Hall Pass" at the Reach. They also provide summaries of important school policies. Please review LRHS policies and procedures with your students that are included in the student planner.

3) **FOOD/DRINKS** must be consumed in the CAFETERIA. FOOD/DRINKS (except H2O) WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED IN DESIGNATED AREAS OF THE BUILDING.

4) **DRESS APPROPRIATELY**

5) **'REACH'... RESPECT-EXCELLENCE-ACADEMICS-CHARACTER-HONOR**

6) APPRECIATE AND RESPECT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN

PTSA Meetings—3rd Monday of the Month @ 7:00p.m. in the LRHS Information Center

Other important Dates:

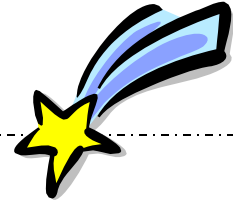
9th Grade Parent Orientation- Sept. 4, 2008

Back to School Night – Sept. 9, 2008

LRHS Homecoming – Sept. 27, 2006

There are going to be many more new and extremely exciting academic programs taking place this year at the 'REACH'. We hope you and your students are anxious to begin what promises to be a rewarding school year at Long Reach High School, and that you will be involved in our outstanding learning community as much as possible. Students should be sure to bring their schedule to the orientation session on August 21 and on the first day of school. **Please share the information included in this mailing with all concerned.** See you soon!

Semper fidelis,
Colonel Edmund E. Evans
USMCR (Ret)
Principal



Save the Date!!! Homecoming is Sat Sept 27th 08.

10 am: Parade- begins and ends in LR Parking lot.
11-12:30pm: Pancake Breakfast sponsored by PTSA
in Cafeteria (ticket prices to be announced)
11-1pm: Yearbook dist. in Atrium
2pm: Game
7-10pm: Dance in LR Gymnasium

This year the PTSA will again be sponsoring the 2nd annual Homecoming Breakfast. This was very well received last year and we have decided to do it again. The breakfast will be held in the cafeteria from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. The **yearbooks will be handed out at this time** as well, so you can sit and relax while enjoying a delicious hot breakfast and looking through your book. Please come and support the school and the PTSA by planning on having breakfast after the parade and make it a day of Long Reach Festivities.

If you are able to volunteer some time to help with event it would be greatly appreciated. We need everything from cashiers, servers, cooks, dishwashers and general helpers. Please fill out the volunteer form if you can help make this a successful day.

Homecoming is Early this year- Saturday September 27th.

The events for Spirit Week Etc are as follows:

Tickets go on sale for HC Dance on Sept 17th - tickets are \$15 each and students must have a guest permission form completed to buy a ticket for that guest. Tickets sell out every year, so get yours early!

Spirit Week begins Monday September 22nd. Days will be announced the second week of school. Theme this year is Around the World and each class has a locale as their particular theme- Seniors are Egypt/ Juniors- The Orient/ Sophomores- London/Paris, and Freshman- Rio de Janeiro.

Friday, September 26th is the Pep Rally during 5th and 6th Period- weather permitting it will held in the outdoor bleachers. Rain? Gymnasium.

Saturday September 27th- Homecoming Day!

10 am - Parade that begins and ends in the LRHS parking lot (parade route is left on Tamar, right on Stonecutter, around loop, right on Tamar, left on Old Dobbin)

11 am – 12:30 pm - Pancake Breakfast in the cafeteria brought to you by PTSA. A nominal fee is charged at the door for entry. **Yearbook distribution** will be in the atrium during this time (first chance to get your 07/08 Yearbook)

2 pm - Game in Stadium (I forgot who we are playing)

7-10 pm Dance at school - must have ticket and identification to enter. Doors open at 6:45pm and all participants should leave school grounds by 10:30.

Want to volunteer as a chaperone? We'd love to have parents assist- contact me Heather Johnston at 14H

hrjohnston@hotmail.com or Heather15H Johnston@hcpss.org to assist.

Long Reach High School PTSA MEMBERSHIP 2008 – 09

PTSA, an advocacy organization that seeks to unite the forces of home, school & community for our youth...

LIGHTENING BOLT™ DONOR MEMBERSHIP

Become a LRHS PTSA “Lightening Bolt” Donor* by joining our LRHS PTSA Donation Program. You will receive PTSA memberships and all the benefits that the PTSA provides. Here are the donation program levels:

Please indicate your donation participation level.

___ \$100 Purple Bolt (Benefactor Level)	___ \$75 Black Bolt (Donor Level)	___ \$50 Silver Bolt (Patron Level)
The Lightening Bolt Donation includes 2 adult and all of your LRHS students		
Student(s) Name _____		
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____		
Grade _____ Email _____		
Address _____		
Parent/Guardian Name _____		
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____		
Email address _____ Phone _____		
* Your PTSA membership dues and/or donations are tax deductible.		

OR FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Student(s) Name _____	
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____	
Grade _____ Email _____	
Address _____	
Parent/Guardian Name _____	
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____	
Email address _____ Phone _____	
Adult Members @ \$10.00* each _____	
Student Members @ \$5.00* each _____	
Additional Donation \$ _____	
Total \$ _____	
* Your PTSA membership dues and/or donations are tax deductible.	

*Make checks payable to **LRHS PTSA**. You may return check or cash, and this form to the **PTSA Mailbox in the school Front Office**. Your membership card will be given to you at a meeting or sent via your student. PTSA dues and donations are tax deductible.*

Long Reach High School NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The following LRHS events need many parent volunteers to be successful. Volunteering a little of your time can make a big difference. It's a lot of fun too! We are asking each parent to commit to helping with something this year. Detailed information will be given to you at a future date. Long Reach's Staff and the PTSA appreciate your help. If you need more information, contact PTSA President - Alicia Slahetka at TSlahetka@aol.com.

1. **Long Reach Village Center Community Fair:** Need help with event (Sept 6th 11 AM-6PM)
 _____ I can help making snow cones
 _____ I can help with donations of ice, 6oz cups, spoons, snow cone syrup

2. **Homecoming Breakfast:** Help is needed with promotion/preparation/setup/cleanup etc. for breakfast.
 _____ Yes, I can help with homecoming pancake breakfast. (September 27th 11 AM – 12:30 PM)

3. **After Prom Party:** Need help with planning, promoting, donations, selling tickets, etc. for after prom party.
 _____ Yes, I am interested in helping with the after prom committee.
 _____ Yes, I am interested in donating items (prizes, food, money etc.)for after prom.
 _____ Yes, I am interested in chaperoning for after prom. (May 9th Midnight to 5:00 AM)

4. **Staff Appreciation:** Help is needed for various activities throughout the year.
 _____ I can help with Setup or Cleanup for teacher conference dinner (November)
 _____ I can help with Setup or Cleanup for Staff Appreciation Week (May)
 _____ I can help with Food Donations i.e. Apples, Water Bottles, Salads, Soups, Bagels etc.
 _____ I can help with gift donations i.e., gift cards, lotions, candles, picture frames, mugs, etc.

5. **Chaperone Dances/Activities:** Provide adult supervision at homecoming and after prom.
 _____ Yes, I am able to be a chaperone.

6. **Parents of the REACH:** Weekly, monthly, occasionally to monitor hallways or lunchroom throughout year
 _____ Yes, I can help sometime for Parent of the Reach.

7. **Junior Interviews:** Help conduct mock interviews with Juniors – (March)
 _____ I can help with Junior Interviews

8. **Baking:** We need help with baking for special events throughout the year.
 _____ Yes, I am interested in helping with baking for special events.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Best numbers to reach you: (Home)_____ (Cell)_____

Student Names(s)_____ Grades (s):_____

Email Address: _____

(Most communications are done by email)

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! THANK YOU.

Please completely fill out this form and return to school marked "PTSA Volunteer Checklist" or bring with you to our Back to School Night.

REGISTER now for the upcoming SAT- PSAT PREP COURSE

Sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT in October. Seniors and juniors will take the SAT this year. This course helps prepare students for these important examinations.

Dates: Mondays: Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2008 (7-9:15 pm)

Location: Long Reach High School

Students should attend **ALL DATES. If students have a conflict with these dates, they may attend at another location: please see the web site for the full schedule and locations: MarthaGagnon.com or E-mail: martgagnon@aol.com , or call Dr. Gagnon at (410) 442-1600 well in advance.)*

Please register early, as space is very limited. Results have been EXCELLENT! Parents: This is a REAL OPPORTUNITY you don't want your son or daughter to miss. This course supplements our curriculum and will focus on improving test-taking skills, tips for answering each type of question, a math review, vocabulary development, essay writing, and building confidence.

FEE: \$185 (includes tuition, materials & \$25 non-refundable registration fee.) The course is open to students from any high school. A portion of the fee benefits your school.

INSTRUCTORS: *Dr. Martha Gagnon and / or her instructional team. Dr. Gagnon has been offering this course for more than a decade. Dr. Gagnon is the former Dean of Admissions at Western Maryland College (McDaniel College). She was Director of Admissions at Loyola College. She held the position of Staff Consultant to the College Board (makers of the SAT and PSAT) for 18 years. Currently she maintains a private practice in Howard Co, specializing in test preparation and college placement.*

TO REGISTER: Complete the form below, along with a check for \$185 (payable to Dr. Martha Gagnon. Enclose a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope. Send to 2660 Daisy Rd., Woodbine, MD 21797. Dr. G. will confirm your registration 7 days week before your course.

Long Reach HS SAT & PSAT Preparation Course Registration Form

Student's Name _____ Grade: _____

Day Telephone: _____ Evening Telephone: _____

Parent E-mail Address: _____

Last name on check: (ONLY if it differs from student's last name) _____

SHOP

The Long Reach High School chapter of **SHOP** (students helping other people) has many wonderful things planned for this school year. **SHOP** meets every Wednesday (beginning in September) right after school in room 307. We are always looking for new members, so please join us! (Parent help is always appreciated too!)

Our first activity of the year will be a community yard sale. It will take place on Saturday, September 20, 2008 in the school parking lot. (Rain date is October 11th). Spaces are available for \$10 each or three spaces for \$25. Tables will be available for rent as well. SHOP supports many local organizations and individuals; Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology, the Maryland Chapter of the MS Society, local food banks, senior citizens and needy families in our area, to name a few. We do all of this on very limited resources and would really appreciate it if many of you can support our yard sale. Just think, ways to get rid of your unwanted "treasures", make a little spending money, and help a great cause. What more could you ask? How about how to sign up? Please contact Theresa Pfister or Kim Schreder at school – 410-313-7117 or by email: 16HTheresa_Pfister@hcpss.org. Tell your friends; let's make this a fun, LRHS community event! Thanks so much!

Parents who would like to have **INTERIM** or **REPORT CARDS** mailed home must submit 7 self addressed, stamped envelopes to the attention of Julie Salamone. Please be sure to have the student's name printed on the inside flap of the envelope.

Thank you.

Help Wanted

The PTSA has some vacancies on the board and we are looking for you. Many of our parents last year had seniors and are no longer with us. It is almost like starting over. We are looking for parent volunteers who want to support the school and make a difference.

We need coordinators for:

After Prom Committee Membership Committee Long Reach Village Community Fair
Editor for this Newsletter Scholarship Committee Homecoming Breakfast Spirit Nights
Giant A+ Bonus Program Safeway Target Food Lion

Do not let the word coordinator scare you. It is just a title. Full training is provided and lots of support is given throughout the year. If you have a desire to help in any of these areas, please contact PTSA President, Alicia Slahetka at 17HTSlahetka@aol.com. This is a great way for parents to get involved and it has true meaning to your student. We are a fun group that meets once a month for two hours or less.

All parents are welcome to attend our meetings and we very much would like support and input from parents who do attend. **Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 15th at 7:00 pm in the Media Center.**

Welcome Class of 2012 Parents and Students!

The Freshman Orientation was held on Thursday, August 21st. It was a great day to meet our newest students. If your student missed the orientation, there are student packets from that day in the guidance office.

Parent Orientation is on Thursday, September 4th at 6:30 pm in the auditorium. We hope to have as many parents that night as we had for the student orientation. Come learn about the culture of Long Reach High School and opportunities that await your student here. It's also a great way to meet other parents and begin the home-school connection we hope to have for the next four years.

The 9th Grade Team will also be hosting other events throughout the year including:

- "Midterm Mania", a night for parents and students to learn about midterms and collect study guides ahead of time for extra study, on December 10th at 7:00 pm
- "What can I do now? Looking Ahead to College Night", a night for parents and students to hear from a college acceptance counselor what will help set our students apart when applying for college, on March 11th at 7:00 pm.

Join e-School News for updates and keep asking your students for information coming home as well! We look forward to meeting and working with you and your 9th grader this year!

Anne Metzbower, 9th Grade Team; Brett Moore, 9th Grade Counselor; Edgar Batenga, 9th Grade Administrator

Flag Reach

Many thanks to all of the individuals and groups that donated funds for the **Flag Reach Project!!** The support and response was overwhelming. A special thanks to Mr. Evans for making up the difference in funding. Flag Reach will be a great tie in with the new "Reach the World" theme!

Update: All of the flags that were identified by students have been purchased (or at least the ones we could find). The next step in the process is getting the flags hung in the atrium. This will involve some coordination with the county maintenance staff. The goal is to have all of the 100+ flags hung by the end of this fall. Stay tuned for details on an unveiling and celebration.

PTSA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD TO SENIORS 2008

Correction: The PTSA handed out 10 scholarship awards, not 9 as previously stated in the June 08 newsletter. Our apologies for leaving out one of our equally deserving Seniors. Below is a complete list of those students receiving a PTSA Scholarship:

*Nathaniel Scott – Technical Kelli Battista – Academic Annah Seo – Academic Brittany Peed – Academic
Claire Dunlay – Creative/Cultural Arts Stephanie Saxton – Teacher Danielle Truitt – Teacher
Bethany Brigoli – Volunteer Beverly Frimpong – Volunteer Bernice Frimpong – Volunteer*

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Day Programs

Freshman Orientation - Counseling Office	Sept. 22 nd
Senior Conferences – with Counselors	Month of Sept.
Senior Class visits	Sept. 15 th
Grade 10 Visits – Computer Lab – Choices	Nov. 5 th
Grade 11 Visits – Computer Lab – Choices	
Student Credit Checks in Media with English Classes	
Alumni Day	Dec. 19 th

Evening Programs

Senior Information Night	Sept. 24 th
Back to School Night	Sept. 9 th
Junior Evening Program	April 1 st
9 th Grade Parent Orientation	Sept. 4 th
County-wide NCAA Program	Nov. 19 th

SAT Test Dates

Test Date	SAT	Reg.	Late Reg. (Late fee)
Oct. 4, 2008	SAT & Subject Tests	9/9	9/16
Nov. 1, 2008	SAT & Subject Tests	9/26	10/10
Dec. 6, 2008	SAT & Subject Tests	11/5	11/18
Jan. 24, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	12/26	1/16
Mar. 14, 2009	SAT Only	2/10	2/24
May 2, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	3/31	4/9
June 6, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	5/5	5/15

ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration	Late Fee
Feb. 9, 2008	1/4	1/5-18
April 12, 2008	3/7	3/8-21
June 14, 2008	5/9	5/10-23

For test centers and more information go to 18H www.act.org.

AP Exam Dates

Monday, May 4th through Friday, May 8th

SAVE THE DATES:

The Long Reach High School Theatre Arts Department proudly announces its 2008-2009 season:

Fall Play: *California Suite* - November 20-22 at 7:30 PM

Advance Theatre Arts Holiday performance - December 19 at 12:30 PM

Variety show featuring LRHS improv group, Fill in the Blank, and Musical Theatre - January 30 at 7:30 PM

Spring Musical TBA - March 26-28 at 7:30 PM

Musical Theatre performance: School House Rock! - April 22 at 10:00 AM

LRHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, Aug. 21 st	Freshman / New Student Orientation – Auditorium – 8:00am
Monday, Aug. 25 th	Classes begin for all students – 7:25am
Monday, Sept. 1 st	Labor Day – No School / Offices Closed
Thursday, Sept. 4 th	9 th Grade Parent Orientation – 6:30pm
Monday, Sept. 8	SAT-PSAT Pres Course begins (Sept. 8,15,22,29) 7:00 – 9:15pm
Tuesday, Sept. 9 th	Back – to – School Night – 7:00pm
Monday, Sept. 15 th	PTSA Meeting – Everyone Welcome – Media Center – 7:00pm
Saturday, Sept. 20 th	SHOP Community Yard Sale – LRHS Parking Lot
Monday, Sept. 22-27	SPIRIT WEEK
Wednesday, Sept. 24 th	Senior Information Night
Saturday, Sept. 27 th	HOMECOMING – events begin at 10:00am at LRHS
Tuesday, Sept. 30 th	Rosh Hashanah – No School / Offices Closed
Saturday, Oct. 4 th	SAT Testing (registration deadline is Sept. 9 th !)
Thursday, Oct. 9 th	Yom Kippur – No School / Offices Closed
Wednesday, Oct. 15 th	PSAT – Given to all Grade 10 & 11 Students
Friday, Oct. 17 th	No School for Students – MSTA Convention
Monday, Oct. 20 th	PTSA Meeting – Everyone Welcome – Media Center – 7:00pm
Monday, Nov. 3 rd	End of First Marking Period
Tuesday, Nov. 4 th	Election Day – No School / Offices Closed
Thursday, Nov. 13 th	Report Cards Issued
Nov. 24 th & 25 th	Parent Teacher Conferences – Schools close 3 hours early
Nov. 26 th	Parent Teacher Conferences – Schools closed for Students
Nov. 27 th & 28 th	Thanksgiving Holiday – No School / Offices Closed

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Office Hours: 7:00 – 2:45 Monday through Friday
Counseling Office 410-313-7412 Fax 410-313-1599 CEEB CODE: 210-415

Counseling Center Staff and Counselors

Counselors	Ms. Bradley	A-C	susan_bradley@hcpss.org
	Mr. Repsher	D-J	mike_repsher@hcpss.org
	Ms. Pelesh	K-Re	diane_pelesh@hcpss.org
	Mr. Miles	Rh-Z	patrick_miles@hcpss.org
	Ms. Moore	9 th Grade	brett_moore@hcpss.org
Secretary	Ms. Lake		patricia_lake@hcpss.org
Registrar	Ms. Bakst		joanne_bakst@hcpss.org
	Ms. Brown		janice_brown@hcpss.org
Data Clerk	Ms. Salamone		julie_salamone@hcpss.org

Counseling Office information will be sent periodically to the community through the school's online e-newsletter. To register for the e-newsletter go to <http://www.eschoolnewsletter.com/> to sign up.

The Long Reach web site is listed at <http://www.howard.k12.md.us/LRHS/home.html>

Welcome Back!!!

The newly decorated Counseling Office is located by the main office and connects to the atrium. The Counseling Office is a safe environment for all students. Students and parents are always welcome to come in with concerns. Parents it is best to call first to let us know you are coming so we can schedule an appointment.

Counseling Office - Evening Hours

The Counseling Office will be providing evening hours once a week on Wednesday evenings from 2:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. starting September 10, 2008. A counselor will be available to meet with parents to discuss any questions or concerns a parent may have regarding their student. Appointments are preferable but drop-in's are always welcome.

Parent Teacher Conferences

If you desire a group conference with the counselor and all of your child's teachers, please call your child's counselor to set up an appointment.

Conferences are held on Tuesday through Thursday and begin at 2:15 and end at 2:45.

Choices

Choices is a wonderful computer program that the counselors and teachers at Long Reach High School use to help inform your students about careers, colleges, technical schools, and colleges. This program is available to students in the Counseling Office and also in the comfort of your home. There is information available of over 7000 schools in the United States and a [scholarship search](#). Stop by the Counseling Office and pick up a card with access information.

Sophomores will receive academic and career information this year through various classes to discuss their interests and a list of careers in those areas.

The sophomore class will soon be receiving information about the **Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) program**. The HOBY program provides leadership development opportunities that empower individuals to achieve their highest potential by offering a three and four day leadership development seminar each spring.

Students who believe they have outstanding oral and/or written communication skills, critical and/or creative thinking skills, strong decision-making skills, and have a sensitivity to the needs or concerns of others, and performed a service to the community are what the HOBY organization is looking for. We encourage any student who wishes to enhance their leadership skills and represent Long Reach High School at the seminar to apply for nomination to this prestigious honor. Please see Mr. Repsher for more information.

Juniors

Grade 11 students will participate this year in the World of Work Requirement and sit for a mock interview with members of our business community in the spring. If you are interested in volunteering to become an interviewer please contact Mr. Pat Miles or Ms. Pat Lake at 410-313-7412.

We can also use parent volunteers to assist with Junior Interview Day in many different capacities.

Seniors.....you are now ready to begin the college application process. Stop by the Counseling Office and pick up a copy of the College Application Packet (orange cover).

- Start the college application process NOW!!!
- Ask teachers/counselors for recommendations – pick up a **College Application Packet** in the Counseling Office
- Be aware of application deadlines!

- If you have not taken the **SAT/ACT** and you plan to go to college – sign up now! Check fall test dates for SAT deadlines and make sure you register!
- When looking at college applications check to see if they require **SAT Subject Tests** for admission – if so register now with College Board.
- Check your senior schedule – make sure you have all your graduation requirements, service learning, HSA's, World of Work – this is your responsibility!
- Visit colleges that you are thinking of attending and talk to local students attending those colleges.
- Begin writing your college essay(s).
- Continue to read interesting novels and literature that will assist you with your SAT's.
- Visit the web sites of interested colleges. Use the CHOICES Program. See your counselor for the access code.

You can expect to have a senior conference with your counselor at the beginning of the school year. The senior conference is a time when your counselor will review your high school record to insure that your transcript is accurate, your career plans are realistic and you are making progress towards your goals, to discuss test results, application procedures, transcript requests, and scholarships, etc.

PSAT

Given free to all Grade 10 and Grade 11 students

Date: Wednesday, October 15th

More Information www.collegeboard.com

PSAT scores will be mailed to students in late December and January by the Board of Education.

National Honor Society News Selection Process and Induction

Juniors and seniors with a 3.4 minimum cumulative GPA from the end of the 2007-2008 school year are invited by a letter to a meeting after school on September 4 to obtain a credentials packet and information pertinent to completing that packet. Students unable to attend the information meeting receive their credentials packet in class during the school day. Items in the credentials packet include forms to record leadership experiences, extra curricular activities and community service. Service is based on activities which benefit others with no compensation for the candidate. Each activity must be verified through a signature from an adult sponsor. An essay is required, not as an eligibility criterion, but to provide additional insight into the student's reasons for seeking membership in the NHS. A letter of recommendation from an adult who knows the student outside of school and who is not a relative must be submitted. The credentials packet also contains five checklists to be given to staff members of the candidate's choice. These are used by the staff member to rate the candidate on character, attitude, service, responsibility, leadership, and working with others. Discipline records are checked and information pertaining to referrals and/or suspensions is made available to the Faculty Council (five teachers appointed by the principal) to be considered in their decision making. A referral or suspension does not constitute an automatic elimination.

Once the Faculty Council has reviewed each candidate's packet, they vote on whether or not to offer membership to the student. Students are notified of the Faculty Council's decision and receive information about the induction ceremony to take place on December 2, 2008. Candidates not selected are notified by letter indicating which standard(s) has not been met. This is given to the individual in person. They have two weeks to ask questions of the sponsor(s). The parents receive a letter which is mailed. They also have two weeks to make inquiries.

Students who are inducted pledge to uphold the NHS standards of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character. Actions which cause students to fall below any of these standards are reviewed by the Faculty Council and disciplinary action may be taken. Students pay annual dues of \$20.00 and attend mandatory general assembly meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the LRHS cafeteria.

Please contact one of the advisors with further questions.

Ms. Martha Holshue

Ms. Diane McAllister

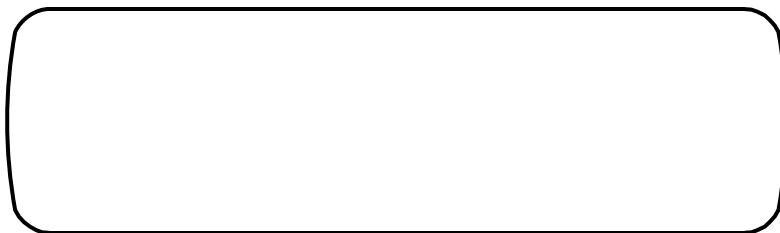
Ms. Rene Wasserkrug

Long Reach High School
 6101 Old Dobbin Lane
 Columbia, MD 21045

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DATED MATERIAL



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LRHS Telephone Numbers

Front Office	410-313-7117
Guidance	410-313-7412
Attendance	410-313-5614
Health Room	410-313-7416
FAX	410-313-7422
Athletic Director	410-313-7414



From The Attendance Office

Parents/Guardians: If your child will not be at school for any reason, please call 410-313-5614 (LRHS Attendance Office) by 9AM that day and leave a message giving the student's name, grade, reason for absence, and your name. Thank you.

Why receive *The Lightning Bolt* electronically?

Did you know that the hard copy of *The Lightning Bolt* mailed to your home can take up to 2 weeks to reach you?

Want to receive *The Lightning Bolt* sooner? Sign up to receive the Lightning Bolt electronically. All you need to do is email **your name, email address, student's name, and zip code** to 19Hnewsletter@longreachpts.org. Future issues of the newsletter will be sent electronically to you on the same day that hard copies are mailed via the USPS. *Please note: Any email addresses received will be used for newsletter/school notices only.*

LRHS PTSA

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