LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Richard Whitehead Director of Student Services



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Hello everyone,

I would like to formally welcome you all to the 2022-23 school year, take the opportunity to introduce myself as a new LS employee and provide some helpful information for this newly minted school year. We have had a great first few days and the faculty have been getting to know our new students, reacquainting themselves with others and settling into their work spaces. It has been great to see and I am already impressed with their commitment and understanding of the work at hand.

Personally, I am very excited to be taking on a new challenge here at Lincoln-Sudbury and have really appreciated the warm welcome from faculty, parents and other community members. Although new to Lincoln-Sudbury this year I have worked in special education for the past thirty four years in a variety of different roles in both the private and public school settings. Most recently I was the Director of Student Service for the Dracut and then the Wayland public school districts. I have learned a lot over the years and my hope is to bring my experience to LS in support of your students and our faculty.

I would like to invite you to an Open House on **Wednesday September 28th** from **9-10am** here at LS. We will have a brief presentation followed by a general Q&A and coffee. If you would like to attend please email Danielle McAuliffe, my Admin, at danielle_mcauliffe@lsrhs.net. Your email will allow us to make sure we have an appropriately sized space and sufficient coffee for all attendees.

I am not the only new face in student services this year and listed below are our new faculty and related service providers. They have joined the team here at LS and bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the district. Nicole Kromer is not new to LS, but is assuming a new role this year and will support me as the Department Coordinator for Student Services. Chris Akoury, Greg Bergeron, Andrew Murphy and Mark Nolan have joined LS as Special Education Liaisons. Melissa Swisher will be running our new Partners program classroom and Alison Eichmann will be supporting many students in her role as a

Speech & Language Pathologist. I trust that you will welcome them to LS as warmly as you have welcomed me.

Our IEP meetings this year will continue to be virtual using the 'Google Meet' platform. If you would prefer an in-person meeting at any point in the school year please let the liaison for your student know in a timely manner. This will give them the time to secure space and alert any other staff who are involved in the meeting.

As Director I also encourage you to support the Lincoln-Sudbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council. The SEPAC performs a valuable role in the district by providing support, presentations and guidance to interested parties.

Our SEPAC can be contacted at lssepac.info@gmail.com and their website is linked here.

If you have questions about your student's special education services please contact their special education liaison first. They will help you out and guide you in my direction should you need additional support.

In closing I wanted to make you aware that this year marks the 50th anniversary of Chapter 766. This landmark legislation, in 1972, set the stage for the work we do today by protecting the rights of students with disabilities to an educational program. We have come a long way since then and we will always have further to go. I am always grateful to play a part in the work that we do and I am excited to have all of you as partners in the process.

My best wishes to all of you.

Richard Whitehead

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