

### **UPDATE** NEWSLETTER

MAY-JUNE, 2023 VOL. 4, NO. 3 NEWS AND INSIGHTS FROM LEAGUE SCHOOL OF GREATER BOSTON

# League School Celebrates Tenth Annual 5K Walk/Run for Autism



Beautiful weather and nearly 150 participants made for a very enthusiastic and successful 5K Walk/Run for Autism on Saturday, May 13, when a large group of students, staff, families, supporters and local businesses came together on the League School campus. In total, nearly \$40,000 was raised to help the school further its mission of offering excellence in autism education to its students.

The League School thanks its many sponsors for making the Tenth Annual 5K Walk/Run for Autism possible: Christopher Catanese Children's Foundation, O'LYN Roofing, Direct Federal Credit Union, AAFCPAs, Middlesex Savings Bank, Aqua-Tots Swim Schools Norwood, Dempsey Insurance Agency, Dedham Savings and McDonald's.

For a full recap of the event, click here. For a photo gallery, click here.

OUR NEXT EVENT: The "FORE" Autism Golf Classic, will take place on Monday, June 12. The annual fundraiser helps support the immediate needs of the students and teachers at League School. The event will be held at the Franklin Country Club.

For more information on the event, to make a donation, or to register, **click here**.



### **League School Hosts First Ever Prom**

On Friday, May 19, students donned their finest dresses and suits for the school's first ever prom.

The night was a huge success, with more than 40 students and

their families taking part and more than a dozen staff members volunteering their time to make the evening so special.

In keeping with school's philosophy, the prom was largely student-led. A prom committee helped to organize the event and the entire student body helped pick the "Disney" theme for the evening. Student Zuly headed the committee and spoke at the event.



To read more about the event, <u>click here</u>. For a photo gallery, <u>click here</u>.

## League School Students Make Progress with Abundance Garden at Norfolk Aggie



With summer just around the corner, League School students and staff have been busy at the school's Abundance Garden making preparations for a bounty of flowers, herbs and fresh veggies.

Job coach Selena Zubrowski has been working with students at the space, which is located at (and generously donated by) Norfolk Agricultural High School in Walpole. Among the vegetables planted in the garden so far are lettuce, carrots,

beets, parsnips, cauliflower, spinach, zucchini, summer squash, leeks, tomatoes and peppers, as well as garlic and saffron.

Students in League's culinary arts program will turn the freshly grown produce into foods like salsa and tomato sauce. Learning about farming and eating hand-grown vegetables will also serve as an important reminder for the students about making healthy choices and portion control when eating. Learn more about the garden here.

### League School Launches 'Good Morning League' Podcast

The League School is excited to announce that the school has launched the "Good Morning League" podcast! Guests will include those in the League School community and experts in the field of autism, discussing a wide range of topics.

The first guest on the podcast was Michael John Carley, a well-known autism advocate, author, and League School educational consultant. Click here to

<u>listen to Episode 1</u>. Guests for future episodes have been chosen, with interviews set to start in early June.

All episodes will be hosted online on the <u>League</u>
<u>School website</u> and can be found on popular podcast streaming services.



#### Meet our Newest Ambassadors: Ron Goodman and Kate O'Halloran





Two new members of our Board of Ambassadors include Ron Goodman, who became involved with League School when his son Jake transitioned from public high school; and Kate O'Halloran, who has supported League School through her annual fundraising, participation in the Falmouth Road Race and sponsorship of the Night of Champions gala. Learn more about Ron and Kate here.

#### \* \* \* LEAGUE SCHOOL SHOUT-OUTS! \* \* \*

Other highlights at League School from the past few months include the following:

 On Thursday, May 25, League School hosted the founding meeting of the Neurodiversity Employment Incubator Project, with more than a dozen interested parties in attendance both in person and virtually. The meeting kicked off the innovative and collaborative project, which will help create employment opportunities in the community through the



development of businesses and partnerships designed to meet the specific employment needs of neurodiverse individuals. To learn more about the meeting and the project, <u>click here</u>.

- Recently League School students James and Theodore (pictured above) stopped by the Franklin Senior Center for a Volunteer Appreciation brunch. The students were invited as a thank-you for all of their hard work at the center. James and Theodore are terrific community ambassadors for League School, and we commend them and all of our students for their volunteer efforts!
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** was May 8-12, and League School celebrated in a variety of ways. Signs were hung up throughout the building and outside on the property, staff

were treated to special breakfasts and luncheons, prizes were handed out, a "dress as your favorite staff member" day was held, a Ben and Jerry's ice cream truck visited the school, and more. We thank our amazing staff for all they do on behalf of our students each and every day. Their dedication, support, expertise and passion is unmatched.

Thanks to all those who dined at Bertucci's and Panera Bread during our recent
 Autism Empowerment Month dining fundraisers. In total the school raised more
 than \$150 to help support services and programs for students.









Online: <u>leagueschool.org/news</u>

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