



# Lower Merion High School

Excellence in Education  
Enter to Learn, Go Forth to Serve

Donald J. Walsh  
Activities/Athletic Director

September 4, 2013

Dear Neighbor of Lower Merion High School:

Welcome to the 2013-2014 school year! I would like to invite you and your family to join Lower Merion High School and the Lower Merion Football Family at Arnold Field on Friday, September 20, 2013 as the Aces take on the Lions of Penncrest beginning at 7:00 PM and ending at approximately 9:45 PM.

As football is waning in popularity, we believe it is important to support our dedicated student-athletes by raising community awareness and interest in Lower Merion Football through a night game. We believe this can be a wonderful, positive experience for our children and our community. We are committed to doing this safely for all of the attendees as well as being courteous to our neighbors.

In preparation for the event, we have scheduled a community meeting for Thursday, September 12 at 7:00 PM in the Lower Merion HS Large Group Instruction Room (located just inside the front entrance) to gather ideas from the community to ensure the evening is as successful as possible. I am hopeful you can attend the meeting and/or feel free to contact me anytime with thoughts and suggestions at (610) 645-1821 or by email at [walshd@lmsd.org](mailto:walshd@lmsd.org).

Some steps already proposed to help ensure a memorable, positive event are:

- One day prior to the event, testing and arranging the lights in a way that would adequately light the field of play and path from Montgomery Avenue to the stadium while being least disruptive to those neighboring the field.
- Approach the event like a standard weekend evening function which includes having increased police and security presence, a zero tolerance expectation for alcohol (the school has administrators present with breathalyzers), and supports in place to clean the premises immediately following the event.
- Appropriately staff the parking lots and bordering streets to ensure that guests park in designated areas.
- Engaging our parent booster and student council members in taking proactive steps, as well as being present and about the facility, to make sure that the conduct of attendees is neighborly.

Please note that the event on September 20<sup>th</sup> is not part of an effort to install permanent lighting on Arnold Field, but an effort to support the student-athletes who participate in one of the oldest and most storied athletic programs in the region. This same activity was held in the Fall of 2007 and was successful in joining the community together in support of the football program.

We look forward to partnering with you and appreciate your ongoing cooperation and support of our students. Again, if you are not able to join us during the community meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>, please feel free to contact me by phone or by email.

Sincerely,

The handwritten signature of Donald J. Walsh.  
Donald J. Walsh  
Activities/Athletic Director

The handwritten signature of Sean Hughes.  
Sean Hughes  
Principal