

# LHS Referendum Tour

## **One**

### **Auditorium and School Entrance**

More than 600 students, about 38% of our student population, participate in performing arts programs. The referendum would provide for enhancing the auditorium with new lighting, new seating and with attention paid to acoustical integrity.

The entrance will be improved to better accommodate students during arrival and dismissal times to school as well as during activities/events that utilize the auditorium.

## **Two**

### **A-102A Converted Reference Room**

In order to deal with the increasing number of students currently attending LHS, this room was converted from the Media Reference Room to a classroom with 30 computer stations. Computers were placed in desks, underneath and out of the way, creating the flexibility required for multiple curriculum needs such as math and social studies.

## **Three**

### **A-102 Converted Periodical Room**

Again, in order to deal with the increasing number of students currently attending LHS, this room was converted from the Media Periodical Room to accommodate small group instruction. A room this size is appropriate for classes no larger than 15 students.

## **Four**

### **Media Center**

To the left, you can see the stacks containing the materials from the Media Reference and Periodical Rooms. The changes to these two rooms were made to help maintain course offerings while keeping a check on the number of students per class. Moving the materials from these rooms, of course, decreases the available space in the Media Center. This limited space, in turn, limits the activities that the Media Center is able to accommodate. In addition, the previous scope of reference materials is not as easily accessible.

*→Leave the Media Center and Head left to the Cafeteria→*

## **Five**

### **Cafeteria - Food Service Area**

LHS now operates with five lunch periods. Some students are eating as early as 10:15 a.m. while others are eating as late as ten minutes before two. This scheduling is necessary to allow the kitchen to provide meals to the large number of students on lunch lines that feed through an area less than three feet in width. The referendum would allow the high school to double the size of the food delivery area so that students can be served in a safe and timely manner. It would also allow schedules to go back to three lunch periods while accommodating an increase in the number of students per period. This scheduling change would restore lunchtime to a more normal and healthy hour for our students.

*→Enter Teacher Lunchroom→*

### **Cafeteria - Teacher Lunchroom**

The walls of the current Teacher's Lunchroom would be opened to increase the amount of seating space available in the general cafeteria. As you walk through this room, imagine a 90-degree day with the kitchen cooking at full capacity. Air-conditioning will be added to the entire cafeteria to make the temperature more even throughout the year.

*→Enter teacher Work Area→*

### **Teacher Work Area connected to the Teacher Lunchroom**

This is the work area currently available to teachers. It would be renovated to become part of the general cafeteria providing additional seating space available to students. A new Teacher Work Area will be located in the vicinity of the current Auxiliary Gym.

*→Enter C-Hall through the small teacher work area and make a right→*

## **Six**

### **Note Desks at the end of C-Hall**

There are desks lining the hallway because there is a lack of storage space. This constricts the hallway and is not optimal for safety purposes.

*→Make left down B-Hall→*

## **Seven**

### **Auxiliary Gym**

Currently we have 30-40 students per gym class. Optimal class size for learning and safety within the physical education period would be 24-25 students. The new gym that would be built calls for an increase in the number of physical education stations, thereby decreasing the number of students per class and freeing the Auxiliary Gym space to accommodate two new state-of-the-art TV studios and two digital imaging rooms. The renovation would provide an education for our students using more up-to-date equipment and would facilitate the scheduling of more classes. This year alone 40-60 students were denied TV and Digital Imaging courses due to the lack of space.

→Continue down B-Hall across from gym→

## **Eight**

### **B-131 - Health Class**

This hallway houses classrooms for health education, driver's education and social studies. Health classes typically have 30 students. You can see in B-131 that the desks stretch from the front of the classroom to the back wall. The crowded physical set-up in this room does not allow for flexibility in instruction which would enable the teacher to provide a cooperative learning setting, where students can work together to explore meaningful concepts while solving real-life problems. With the new renovations, the number of health classrooms would increase from two to three.

### **B-129 - Social Studies**

B-129 is a Social Studies classroom. Again, the crowded physical set-up in this room limits flexibility in instruction, such as more individualized teaching for both regular and special education students, space for the two teachers required to support this individualized instruction and/or for cooperative learning where students can break out into small groups to use a variety of learning activities that improve their understanding of subject content.

The integrity of instruction across all disciplines is affected by large class sizes at the high school and is not limited to Social Studies. Specifically, however, because of space limitations in the area of social studies, students were turned away from elective classes including Holocaust and Genocide, Sociology, and Psychology. Additional space will allow for more electives and Advance Placement (AP) Courses and the use of technology for instruction such as DVD clips, LCD projectors and computers for web-based inquiry activities. With the new renovations, the number of Social Studies classrooms would increase from ten to twelve.

**\*\*You will note as we continue on the tour  
that most of the renovations would be made to the oldest parts of the building.\*\***

→Continue down B-Hall to Technology and Woodshop→

## **Nine**

### **B-123A -Technology**

An updated space would provide appropriate and safe locations to store supplies, equipment, projects and assignments in addition to enabling students to work on major projects in designing, building and testing solutions for local and national design competitions.

### **Woodshop**

The woodshop is small with limited workspace and storage for supplies, equipment, projects and assignments. Anyone who has attended our school theatre productions will be familiar with the large size of some of the projects produced in this shop and can easily recognize the need for increased space, organization and safety. To the left is the shop table where projects are planned and designed. Again, this small area does not lend itself to an optimal learning environment for our large class sizes.

*→Proceed through door to Transportation and Automotive Shop→*

## **Ten**

### **Transportation and Automotive Shop**

Livingston High School is comprehensive, providing educational programming for all interest levels. The curriculum for *Transportation and Automotive Systems* was recently rewritten to include aviation, terrain and aquatic transportation. The subject content emphasizes the use of high level problem solving as students work on machinery ranging from more simple systems to complex technology. In a given section, you might see 17 students working on various projects during one period. As you can see, there is a great need for the facility to be updated providing greater safety, increased workspace and increased storage.

*→Exit back door of Transportation and Automotive Shop to hallway→*

*Open Exit door to the right for people to see new gym designation→*

## **Begin Tour 3 Here**

## **Eleven**

### **New Gym**

Currently we have 30-40 students per gym class. Optimal class size for learning and safety within the physical education period is 24-25 students. The new gym will be located 30 yards or 90 feet from the building approximating the space from this door to the fence. The gym would increase the number of available 'stations' or 'activity areas' from five to eight, normalizing class size especially during the winter months when we don't have the advantage of using the outdoor track and fields. The new gym will also provide more storage for athletic equipment and office space. It will be large enough to accommodate the entire student body for school activities or for safety purposes in the event of a lock down.

52% of our student population participates in co-curricular sports. The new gym will not only provide for physical education classes, but also for our active athletic program. The construction project can be staged so as to allow for scheduling of practice games and normal home games and events without interruption.

The football field would be moved 30 yards (not 30 feet) to the right in order to accommodate the new gym. Until construction is completed there will be some interference with the track. Our Athletic Director has already reached out to neighboring school districts that have relied on Livingston for the use of our facility in the past. They are happy to reciprocate by allowing us to use their tracks while our high school is under construction. Transportation for our students will be made available by bus as for any away game or activity.

*→Move across the hall to the Boy's Locker Room→*

## **Twelve**

### **Boy's Locker Room**

During the school day, the locker bays are littered with backpacks decreasing space for changing in and out of gym attire. In addition, while we emphasize the need to store personal items in lockers, the current set-up does not provide adequate space for storage of backpacks where most students keep their belongings. This is not only an issue during the school day, but also after school during extra-curricular activities and when we host visitors for athletic events.

→Proceed to storage areas near large gym→

## **Thirteen**

### **Storage Rooms (2) (Next to the gym and Across from the gym door)**

The storage room next to the gym is at full capacity so that the bathroom across from the gym now serves instead as a storage room, which is also at full capacity.

*→Proceed to E-Hall→ go up staircase to the immediate right  
→make left out of stair well toward E-219→*

## **Begin Tour 4 Here**

## **Fourteen**

### **E-219**

This room houses Advanced Placement (AP) Biology. As we step inside E-219, you will see a photo of a science classroom similar to that which would be built as part of the referendum. In fact, the referendum will provide a whole new science wing to be constructed on the existing teachers' parking lot increasing the number of science classrooms from 12 to 14. These rooms will be up-to-date and available for class instruction, lab sessions in all areas of science and the lab preparation work that is done by our teachers. By building a new science wing, classrooms such as E-219 will become available for other academic disciplines. Because the size of a science room is generally larger, renovations to two current science rooms will allow space for three non-science classrooms.

When we leave this room, take note that across the hall, rooms E-218 and E-220, are two non-science classrooms that are currently in use by the science department. Because these classrooms are not designed for science instruction, even the essentials, such as water and lab tables, are not available. As we walk to A-Hall, look to the left just beyond E-219 and you will see the small and crowded lab preparation room used by seven biology teachers prepping the 24 life-science labs now available to our students.

*→Continue down the hallway toward A-Hall→ Turn left down A-Hall→*

## **Fifteen**

### **A-210**

This hallway houses our English classrooms. If you were in room A-210 during ninth period, you would see 28-29 students, one of whom sits at the teacher's desk because of the lack

of space. The crowded physical set up in this room limits flexibility in instruction for more individualized teaching for both regular and special education students, space for the two teachers required to support this inclusive instruction and/or for a cooperative learning where students can break out into small groups to use a variety of learning activities that improve their understanding of subject content.

It also limits the appropriate use of technology for instruction, such as DVD clips, LCD projectors and computers for web-based inquiry activities. These forms of instruction are currently available in our elementary and middle school programs where class size is kept small. Large class sizes at the high school affect the integrity of instruction across all disciplines. It is not limited to English. With the new renovations, the number of English classrooms would increase from ten to twelve, reducing class size while providing the opportunity to offer more electives, such as Shakespeare, Women in Literature, Composition, and British Literature, as well as more Honors classes.

→Proceed to B-Hall→ Lancer Vision→

## **Sixteen**

### **Lancer Vision-TV Studio**

This studio makes available for our students classroom experience in television production, and is the home of *AM Wired*, our in-house TV program that is aired daily to provide our students and parents with up-to-date announcements regarding academic and extra-curricular activities. You may also be familiar with our students' work through Livingston's local access station, TV-34, where we provide for TV coverage of, for example, sporting events, theatre productions and graduation. Class sizes include 17-20 students in this very small space. Learning opportunities provided in the TV studio are extremely popular with our students not only because it is fun and produces a very tangible product, but because they provide a curriculum that serves as a foundation for work related opportunities, for future college coursework, and for life skills that can be translated to all areas of learning.

The new gym that would be built, given the referendum, would make the current Auxiliary Gym space available for two new state-of-the-art TV studios and two digital imaging rooms. The renovation would provide for our students an education using more up-to-date equipment and would facilitate the scheduling of more classes. This year alone 40-60 students were denied TV and Digital Imaging courses due to the lack of space. Specifically, both freshmen and seniors were shut out of Basic TV classes.

→Head to C-237→

## **Seventeen**

### **C-237**

Room C-237 is another example of how we have made accommodations for our increasing class size. By making renovations to the existing floor plan, we were able to pick up two and one-half classrooms. In this room, computers are placed in desks underneath and out of the

way creating the flexibility required for multiple curriculum needs, including, for example, math and social studies.

*→Go left at the end of the corridor and Proceed downstairs→Go left into the Music Wing→*

## **Eighteen**

### **Band Room**

The existing music wing was completed in 1990. From 1990-to-2005, the number of students participating in our Performing Arts programs has greatly increased. For Band, there was an increase from 80-to-165 students; Chorus, 100-to-130 students; and Orchestra, 45-to-140 students.

The new construction proposed in the referendum would expand the existing floor plan to provide for a Music Technology program, storage of instruments that are currently placed around the perimeter of the room and on top of cabinets, office space and music rooms with sufficient square footage to house rehearsals including up to 175 students.

*→Proceed down A-Hall to the door opposite the attendance office→*

## **Nineteen**

### **Courtyard to Greenhouse**

As you look out into the courtyard toward the *Greenhouse*, you will get a better idea of the length of the walkway that will be built between the main building of the high school and the new gym. It is the same distance as the walk from the main building here to the *Greenhouse*, 30 yards or 90 feet. Students who are taking classes in the *Greenhouse* currently walk in all weather with no difficulty.

**Have a question?**

**Email [lhsreferendum@livingston.org](mailto:lhsreferendum@livingston.org)**

**Call 973 535-8000 ext 5555**