

## A POSSE-BLE DREAM

### Classical students win prestigious scholarship

By PAUL HALLORAN

Like many high school seniors, Carolin Frias and Messeret Kebede will be going away to college this summer. They will not be embarking on the journey alone, however.

Frias and Kebede will each be part of a Posse — a group of students selected to receive a prestigious scholarship and experience college together.

The Lynn Classical seniors and best friends are among this year's recipients of the Posse Scholarship, a 4-year, full-tuition award given by the Posse Foundation to urban public high school students who have demonstrated outstanding academic and leadership skills. The Posse Foundation seeks

to identify students who may overlooked by the traditional college selection process.

Frias will attend Denison University in Ohio, while Kebede is headed to Bucknell in Pennsylvania. They were selected for the Posse scholarship after an extensive application and interview process.

"They ask a lot of rigorous and personal questions," said Frias. "And you have to get into the school in order to receive the scholarship."

First, there was a group interview in September with about 100 students. "They split us into groups to see how well we could communicate with each other," Kebede said.

The second interview was a 1-on-1 with someone from the Posse Foundation. The third and final interview, in December, was with someone from the admissions office of the school to which they were applying. "That was more intense," Frias said.

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Carolin Frias and Messeret Kebede are Posse scholars.



Lynn English seniors Dennis Hernandez and Elder Perez composed an original song, entitled "Rise Above," that won first place in the Ballads vs. Bullying contest.

### English band takes stand vs. bullying

By PAUL HALLORAN

Two Lynn English seniors took center stage at this year's Stand Up to Bullying conference, winning first place in the Ballads vs. Bullying music contest.

Dennis Hernandez and Elder Perez composed an original song entitled "Rise Above" and submitted it prior to the conference. A panel of judges from JAM'N 94.5 and KISS 108 radio stations picked the top three entries and they were invited to perform at the 2012 Stand Up to Bullying Conference Nov. 29 at Tsongas Arena in Lowell.

The winning song was selected by the 5,000 middle- and high-school students in attendance, who voted using cell-phone technology. When the votes were counted, Hernandez and Perez had indeed risen above the competition.

"Dennis and Elder made Lynn English very proud," said Ginny Keenan, Peer Mediation Coordinator at the school.

Hernandez and Perez will have their song professionally produced by Bristol

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### INSIDE:

"Teaching and learning are happening here, even though we may not be blessed with a good building," said Marshall Middle School Principal Dr. Richard Cowdell, who is optimistic that a new Marshall is on the horizon.

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**CITY OF LYNN**  
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# Students are excelling in and out of class



**JUDITH FLANAGAN KENNEDY**

credits through North Shore Community College. The students started the process by taking a course at NSCC last summer, and they will take another this summer for a total of six credits — half of what they

As every day passes and we inch closer to the end of another New England winter, it occurred to me that learning is a four-season undertaking in Lynn Public Schools.

That idea is amplified by the story in this edition on the Lynn Classical students who are earning college

have the opportunity to earn while still in high school.

Something else that strikes me is the wide range of talents and abilities possessed by our students, from the Posse scholars at Classical to the outstanding musicians at English that won a statewide anti-bullying song contest.

Students, teachers and administrators in public school districts, particularly urban districts, often get painted with a broad brush of negativity, which is really not fair. In Lynn, we have a solid school district led by a superintendent who is singularly focused on advancing teaching and learning in our schools. Dr. Latham, her management team, principals, teachers and other staff come to work every day with the idea

of preparing students to be successful in school and in life.

In the three years I have been privileged to serve as mayor, I have had many opportunities to visit schools. It is not coincidental that every time I do so, it is the best part of my day. I truly enjoy the interaction with students and teachers, and I am continually encouraged to witness the level of motivation and dedication evident in our schools.

Through this publication we are happy to share with you a snapshot of the people and programs that make our school district the success that it is.

*Judith Flanagan Kennedy is mayor of Lynn.*

## Marshall plan is building for the future



**DR. CATHERINE C. LATHAM**

need to succeed. When we consider what these tools look like, we naturally think about SMART boards, science labs and a rigorous curriculum.

Perhaps the most basic benefit we can offer students and staff is a positive learning environment, and that includes the actual facilities in which they are teaching and learning.

In Lynn, we are faced with some significant challenges with infrastructure. We have many buildings that are getting old and tired, though our educators and students do not let that deter them from staying focused on their mission. That notwithstanding, we are compelled to address the

We are pleased to share with you the winter edition of the *Lynn Educator*. As you will read, our students, teachers and administrators are achieving at a high level, in and out of the classroom.

As we prepare a generation of 21st-century learners for post-secondary education and beyond, it is critical that we provide them the tools they

building situation.

In the center spread of this edition, you will find a story and photos concerning Marshall Middle School. It is impossible to overstate the importance of this project. Marshall is an 86-year-old building that, while still safe for occupancy by students and teachers, is no longer a viable long-term option for 21st-century learning.

We are very pleased to have been selected for 80-percent reimbursement for a new Marshall by the Massachusetts School Building Authority. We have been working for months with the MSBA, a project manager and an architect to come up with a site and building design for a new Marshall.

At some point, Lynn voters will be asked to approve a bond to cover the city's share of the building project, estimated to be in the \$18-20 million range. That is obviously a significant investment, but far less than the alternative: making extensive repairs to Marshall with no reimbursement.

Approving the Marshall project is also critical because what happens with Marshall will have an effect on future building projects. Pickering Middle School is probably next on the list, but

neglecting to fund the Marshall project will likely eliminate the possibility of a new Pickering for the foreseeable future.

As we have found out over the last year, the process for obtaining funding from the MSBA is very methodical and labor-intensive, and with good reason. The authority wants to ensure that all the i's are dotted and t's are crossed before committing to multi-million-dollar projects. The MSBA is looking to work with school districts that are able to garner the required local support. It wants to make sure the municipality is invested in the process.

We are optimistic that when the time comes, Lynn residents will show their commitment to public education by approving the Marshall project. In the meantime, teaching and learning are happening every day at Marshall, a point emphasized by the school's outstanding principal, Dr. Richard Cowdell, in the article. Marshall students are preparing for the future. It is our sincere hope that future students will undertake that task in a facility more suited for it.

*Dr. Catherine C. Latham is superintendent of Lynn Public schools.*

## Three elementary and two middle school principals named

Superintendent Catherine Latham announced new principal appointments for the 2012-13 school year for the Ingalls, Aborn and Washington elementary schools and Breed and Pickering middle schools.

"Our new principals are all highly recommended, experienced educators with strong leadership and interpersonal skills and a love of children," Latham said. "All five bring a wealth of experience in curriculum and instruction to their schools."

**Irene Cowdell** was appointed principal of Ingalls Elementary School. Cowdell has been employed by the Lynn Public Schools since 1998, holding various teaching and leadership positions including curriculum and instruction teacher, Reading First literacy coach and classroom teacher at the Harrington and Ingalls schools. She completed training at the National Institute of School Leadership and was a Principal Apprentice at the

Commonwealth Leadership Academy during the 2011-12 school year.

**Patricia Muxie** was appointed principal of Aborn Elementary School. Muxie has been in education since 1983. She came to Lynn Public Schools from Melrose where she most recently served as that district's curriculum director. From 1994-2001, she served as the principal of the Decius Beebe K-5 School in Melrose. Highlights of her work in Melrose include implementation of the Atlas Curriculum Mapping Process, as well as a procedure for identifying gifted and talented students across the district.

**John Licorish** was appointed principal of the Washington Elementary School. Licorish has been in education since 2001. Most recently he served as the math and science coordinator at the Smith Leadership Academy Charter School in Boston. Prior to that, he served for six years as assistant principal at the

Young Achievers Science and Math Pilot School, part of Boston Public Schools. He brings great experience in the areas of mathematics and science instruction. One of his greatest strengths is in data analysis. He has led data analysis teams to utilize data to inform instruction and academic programming.

**Julie Louf** was named principal of Breed Middle School, where she previously served as vice principal for four years. She has worked for Lynn Public Schools for the past 11 years, starting as a special education teacher and also working as a guidance counselor. She has extensive experience in data analysis, teacher evaluation and school improvement planning. At Breed, Louf has directed the School Improvement Planning Team and served as a member of the Parent School Council and the Breed Middle School Crisis Team. Her goals for Breed include improved teaching through the development of professional learning

communities, a renewed focus on program evaluation, further use of student data to improve instruction and continued attention to school climate and community building.

**Kevin Rittershaus** was named principal of Pickering Middle School. He has worked for Lynn Public Schools for the past 16 years as an elementary music teacher, middle school English teacher, middle school athletic director, curriculum and instruction lead teacher and, for the past five years, as the vice principal at Pickering. Rittershaus has also served as an adjunct instructor at North Shore Community College. He has extensive experience in English language arts curriculum development, school improvement planning, and staff development planning and implementation. His goals for Pickering include increased focus on classroom instruction and the Common Core.



# Head start

## Classical students earning college credits

BY PAUL HALLORAN

The 19 juniors in Jerry Burke’s English Composition I class at Lynn Classical are not only gaining knowledge of American Literature and improving their writing skills, they are also getting a head start on college.

Burke’s students are participating in a pilot program with North Shore Community College in which they have the opportunity to earn up to 12 college credits by the time they graduate next year.

“We chose students who have shown a spark in their writing talent,” said Burke, the English department chair at Classical. “We also wanted to expose these students to the college experience.”

Claire-Marie Hart, an English professor at NSCC, is collaborating with Burke and comes in to work with students biweekly. Claire McDonough of NSCC is the achievement coach, providing academic support and guidance and serving as a liaison between the students and the college.

“We are trying to instill in them the mindset of college and what it takes to be successful,” McDonough said, noting that in addition to visiting the class a few times a week, she holds a monthly meeting and regular study groups.

Burke and Lynn Public Schools staff, including Shannon Gardner, program specialist for Race to the Top, started discussing the program, which is modeled after the Gates Foundation Early College High School initiative, with NSCC officials last February. It is being funded through the federal Race to the Top grant and the state Performance Incentive Funding grant.

“The idea is to set expectations high and put the supports in place for students to get a taste of college so they want to move on to college when they graduate,” said Kristin Hunt, project manager for the PIF grant at NSCC. “We are also working with the district on aligning curriculum with college courses.”

**“We are trying to instill in them the mindset of college and what it takes to be successful.”**

The students were selected in the spring and they took a study skills seminar at NSCC last summer, earning three credits. They also took a technology workshop.

The English Composition class combines the material traditionally covered in a grade 11 American Literature class with college-level writing, with an emphasis on essay writing. Students will earn three credits for successfully completing the year-long course.

After taking another three-credit course at NSCC next summer, the same students will take a college-level math course at Classical next year for three more credits, giving them 12 by the time they graduate if they fulfill all the requirements.

“This is a great opportunity for these students,” Burke said, noting that Classical is the first school on the North Shore to implement the program with NSCC. “They have the chance to earn 12 transferable college credits and it will not cost them anything.”

Burke said the hope is to eventually expand the program to English and Tech. At Classical next year, a new group of juniors will take the English Composition course while this year’s group takes math.

“I love working with high school students,” said Hart, who was a high-school teacher for more than 40 years before retiring and joining the faculty at NSCC. “They are interested and excited. I’m teaching the same material I teach to college students and just adapting it a bit.”

“The work is a little harder but not something we can’t do,” said student Terry Kou. “This is a great opportunity to participate in this program.”

In addition to the academic benefits, Kou said the students in the class have bonded due to the amount of time spent with each other, including the summer course. “We took the course at the college and did a lot of activities together,” she said. “We spend more time with each other than our other classes.”

McDonough, the achievement coach, said the class is proving to be a good group to pilot this program. “It’s a great group of kids,” she said. “They interact well with adults and their peers. They are very interested and motivated.”



Students Kerry Tou and Daron Park go over their essays in class.



North Shore CC professor Claire-Marie Hart works with student Leonardo Casillas.



Achievement coach Claire McDonough of North Shore CC answers a question for Classical junior Marcela Torres.





# Hail to the Chief

## Lynn English graduate steps in as leader of Lynn Fire Dept.

BY PAUL HALLORAN

For someone who grew up wanting to be a cop, Jimmy McDonald has done pretty well as a firefighter.

So well, in fact, that on Jan. 20 McDonald officially took over as chief of the Lynn Fire Department, becoming the 18th man to lead the department in its 163-year history.

McDonald replaces Dennis Carmody, who is retiring after 30 years on the job, the last three as chief. Mayor Judith Flanagan Kennedy selected McDonald in November; he was sworn in Jan. 22 at City Hall.

"It feels very good for the mayor to have placed her confidence in me," said McDonald, a 1972 Lynn English High graduate.

McDonald's ascension to the top of the 188-member department is the crowning achievement in a 36-year career that has seen him rise steadily through the ranks, serving in every position: firefighter, lieutenant, captain, district chief and deputy chief.

McDonald's appointment has been met with unabashed enthusiasm from the rank and file.

"There is not a person on the job who doesn't respect Jimmy as a man, a firefighter, an officer, a husband and father," said Matt Reddy, president of Lynn Firefighters Union Local 739. "He has gone through every rank, so he has full knowledge of what every person's job entails."

The son of Eleanor (McGinn) and the late Tom McDonald, Jim played football and hockey at English, describing himself as an "average student." He grew up with his father, grandfather and uncle in the Lynn Police Department and aspired to follow in their footsteps, though his father, a vice squad detective, actually steered him in the direction of the fire department. He was also considering joining the military, but when he was offered a position in the fire department he took it.



Jim McDonald, Lynn English Class of 1972, replaced Dennis Carmody as fire chief on Jan. 20.

"After two weeks on the job, I knew this was exactly where I wanted to be," said McDonald. "There were a lot of fires at the time, so we were very busy. I had the opportunity to go on the police force in Lynn and a few other places, but I turned them all down. It was the best decision I ever made."

McDonald was driving Engine 5 out of Fayette Street when it was the first apparatus on the scene of the second Great Lynn Fire on Nov. 28, 1981. "We figured we had about an hour's worth of work," he said of the conflagration, which started in the old Marshall's Wharf building on Broad Street. The fire ended up destroying 18 buildings and damaging eight others, and firefighters were on the scene for 16 days.

McDonald was also a first responder to the Ben Crest rooming house fire in 1989 in which three people died, but many others were saved. "We were taking people out of there for an hour," he said, recalling working with Buzzy Barton, Dave Coleman and Larry Pitcher. "We must have saved 20 people."

McDonald was promoted to lieutenant in 1985, captain in 1996 and district chief in 2007. He was named acting deputy chief in January 2010 when Carmody was named acting chief, and served in that role for 19 months. He went back to district chief in August 2011 when Carmody

became permanent chief, but because he and Carmody had tied for the top score on an assessment exam for chief in 2010, he remained at the top of the list for chief and the mayor selected him.

"Jim is a consummate professional and an excellent choice to lead the department at this time," said Kennedy.

McDonald, who earned an associate's degree in fire science from North Shore Community College in 1996, hopes to maintain the harmony the department has experienced under Carmody. "There's no need to be contentious," he said. "We're all in the same situation. If the workforce is getting along with management, there is a greater likelihood of success."

That does not mean McDonald will be a passive leader. "If I have something to say, I say it, and I've usually done my homework," he said. "I make mistakes, but I don't walk away from them; I own them. I think that has had a positive effect on my career and the opinion people have of me. They know what they're getting."

That would be someone who has the utmost passion for his profession.

"This job grows on you, it gets in your system," he said. "It becomes part of you. It's not what you do, it's who you are."

McDonald and his wife, Maryann, have two daughters, Cailey McCarthy and Mallia McDonald, and a granddaughter.



Jim McDonald is sworn in as chief as his wife, Maryann, looks on.



# School lunches get healthier



At left, Sewell-Anderson student Kyla Lange gets ready to pick a pear for dessert; above, Aliya Rock, Daniela Soto and Kyla Lange enjoy lunch in the Sewell-Anderson cafeteria.

## Sewell-Anderson students learn reasons for new offerings

By PAUL HALLORAN

There have been significant changes made to school lunches this year, and, not surprisingly, they have not gone unnoticed by the customers – that is, the students.

So when Sewell-Anderson Principal Patricia Mallett sat down with a group of fifth-grade students in late October and asked them what could be done to make the school better, the lunches were at the top of their list.

“We all noticed changes,” Mallett said, “The students didn’t know why things were different: the cheese on the pizza, the bread, the chocolate milk.”

Mallett contacted Kevin Richardson, the senior director of Dining Services for Lynn Public Schools. Richardson set up a meeting with representatives from Preferred Meal Systems, the company which provides school lunches to Lynn schools in partnership with Chartwells.

Gary Hanson, a senior vice president, and another representative of Preferred Meal Systems came to the school to meet with Mallett and the four fifth-grade girls who had expressed their concerns.

“They were very willing to listen to the children,” Mallett said. “They explained that the federal government made several changes in the regulations for school lunches and they were mandated to implement those changes.”

Some of those changes are:

**Only whole-grain bread, pasta and pizza crust**  
**Only non-fat or low-fat milk (including chocolate milk)**  
**Double the amount of fruits and vegetables**  
**Less sodium content in meals**  
**Calorie limits on meals**  
**Less unhealthy fats**

Some of the areas in which the students noticed the biggest changes were different cheese on pizza, the lack of whole milk (white and chocolate), no white bread, and no potato chips. And while they have a better understanding of the reasons for the changes after meeting with the food-service representatives, let’s just say it has been a challenging transition.

“The cheese used to be better and the chicken nuggets are not as crispy,” said Aliya Rock, one of the fifth-graders. “We understand why, but some things just don’t taste as good.”

One of the changes they like is more fruit and fresher fruit salad, said fifth-grader Daniela Soto. And they are trying to get used to the TruMoo low-fat chocolate milk.

The students were pleasantly surprised to receive a letter and Barnes & Noble gift cards from Hanson in appreciation for their input. Also, Sewell-Anderson will become a taste site so when Preferred Meals wants to get

feedback on a new meal, it will be offered at the school and students will be asked for their opinions.

“They are a great company,” Mallett said. “They have to follow the new regulations. They were very sincere in listening to the students.”





# Momentum is building for a new Marshall Middle School

## Students and staff making the best of aging structure

By PAUL HALLORAN

Dr. Richard Cowdell could be the most upbeat person on the planet. There should be a reward for anyone who sees him when he isn't smiling.

That's why Cowdell, principal of Marshall Middle School, chooses to take the glass-half-full approach when taking visitors on a tour of the 86-year-old building on Porter Street, even while pointing out the plethora of examples why Marshall needs a new facility.

"Teaching and learning are happening here, even though we may not be blessed with a good building," Cowdell said.

That will hopefully change within the next few years. The City of Lynn has been approved for 80-percent reimbursement from the Massachusetts School Building Authority for a new Marshall. A School Building Committee has been working for several months with project manager Joslin, Lesser + Associates and architect Raymond Design Associates on options for a new school.

A site on Brookline Street that was formerly home to Lynn Plastics has been identified as the preferred location, though the land has not yet been acquired from the current owner, Cricket Realty Holdings of Marlborough. Public forums have been held and a preferred schematic report will be submitted to the MSBA in February.

It is hoped that the MSBA board of directors will give final approval this fall, at which point the City will have 120 days to conduct a referendum election for the purpose of authorizing a bond to pay for the City's share of the project, estimated at about \$18 million. If the project stays on schedule, students and teachers would move into a new building in the fall of 2016.

"I know that sounds like a long way off, but we understand this is a comprehensive process," Cowdell said. "I'm sure it will be well worth the wait."

Meanwhile, everyone at Marshall is making the best of it. While the building is not unsafe for students and teachers, there are some obstacles that must be overcome.

"Sometimes we can't use this staircase when it rains, because we get some water in here," Cowdell said while leading his guests from the second to third floor. Then there are the "Do not open this window" signs in a few classrooms. Water damage from Hurricane Sandy necessitated the replacement of several boards in the aging gymnasium floor.

"It is an old, tired building that has outlived its usefulness," Cowdell said. "But everyone here is doing the best they can. I think sometimes our school gets a bad rap because of the condition of the building. Our kids and our teachers come to school every day and do their best. The environment at the school is very good."

Witnessing the orderliness with which students change classes lends credence to that observation.

The ramifications of the decision to build a new Marshall Middle School are not limited to the 1,000 students at the school. There are other school buildings that need to be replaced, with Pickering Middle School at or near the top of the list, and it is unlikely that subsequent projects would be approved for funding any time soon if Marshall is not.

"This is an extremely important project, not just for Marshall but for the entire district," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Catherine C. Latham. "We need to demonstrate that we are committed to partnering with the MSBA to improve the quality of our school buildings."

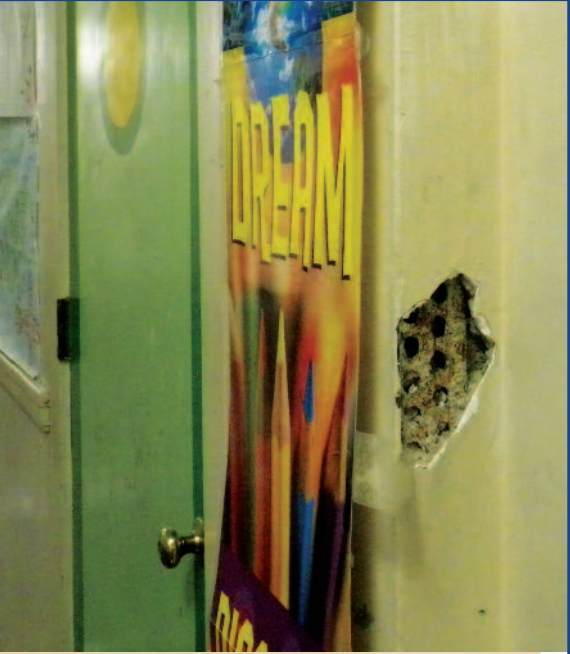
Not only that, but if a new Marshall is not built, the City will be forced to undertake significant repairs to the existing building and bear 100 percent of the cost.

For his part, Cowdell is optimistic, which is all he knows how to be.

"I am confident that when the time comes, the residents of the City will support the project," he said. "The need is obviously there, and we think people will recognize that."



Principal Dr. Richard Cowdell greets a student



Plywood was used to replaced section s of the gym floor that suffered water damage.



# English students Mix It Up to gain new friends

By PAUL HALLORAN

Lynn English students got a chance to make some new friends at a dinner designed for just that purpose.

English held its third annual Mix It Up dinner on Oct. 24, with students randomly assigned seats and encouraged to get to know people who are not in their everyday circle of friends. About 150 students enjoyed a pasta dinner donated by Prisco's Pasta Market Café of Malden (owned by the family of English Vice Principal Jennifer Mancaniello).

The students played games such as Pictionary designed to be icebreakers and get them communicating with each other. The evening ended with everyone dancing the Louisiana shuffle group dance.

English holds two Mix It Up dinners a year, in the fall and spring. "The goal is to work with kids to improve the school climate and make everyone feel welcome and accepted," said Ginny Keenan, peer mediation and mentoring coordinator and Friends of Rachel Club advisor, which sponsors the event. "We encourage students to reach beyond their usual social circles. They are often surprised at how much they enjoy the company of the new people they meet at our dinners."

The Friends of Rachel Club is an offshoot of Rachel's Challenge, a movement aimed at creating safer learning environments nationwide. It is named for Rachel Scott, the first student killed in the Columbine massacre in 1999 who left a legacy of reaching out to those who were different, who were picked on by others, or who were new at her school. The goal of the club is to encourage students to continue Rachel's chain of kindness and make positive changes in the way they treat others.

All Lynn English students are considered members; it is not necessary to attend every meeting or every event, allowing students to make whatever commitment fits their schedules. This open membership is designed to make students feel welcome to join in at any point during the school year.



From left, Kaitlyn Wise, Scarlet Santana and Nnedi Oranekwu



From left, Victoria Bavaro, Allana Barefield and Kaevy Huynh



From left, Ozichi Nwaogu, Analiz Ramirez, Allana Barefield, Amanda Mavros, Jonathan Azevedo

## English duo takes stand vs. bullying

**ANTI-BULLYING:** from Page 1

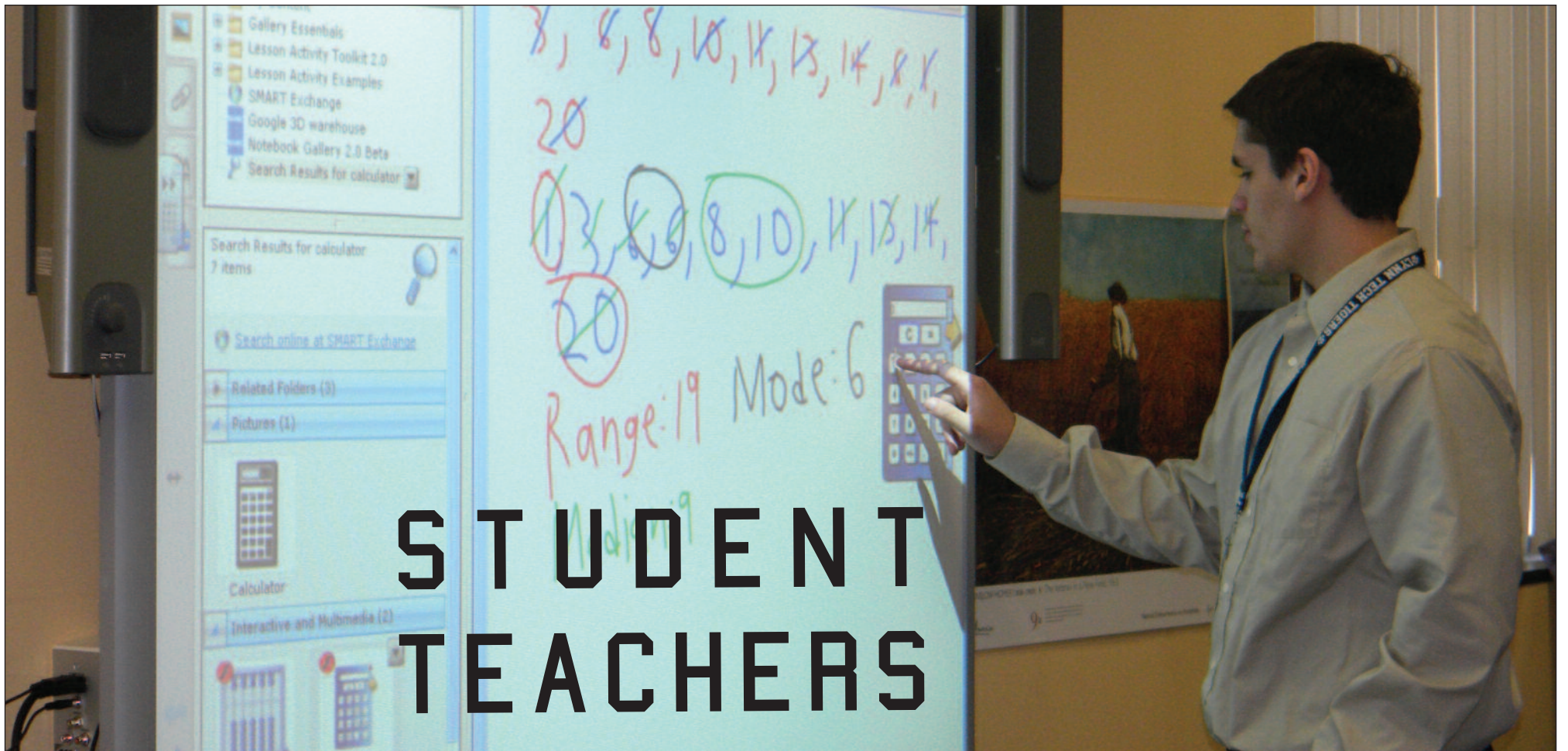
Entertainment, a recording studio in Boston. It will be promoted on JAM'N 94.5 and played on the station's web site.

The Stand Up to Bullying program was created to educate, motivate and empower young people to actively promote social change in their schools and communities. Stand Up to Bullying was developed by a community coalition of more than 50 organizations that worked in partnership with renowned bullying-prevention authorities to ensure the most effective messaging and call to action for students and educators. Stand Up to Bullying utilizes a combination of educational information, entertainment and special recognition to motivate students to stand up to bullying in their schools and communities.



From left, Lizbeth Iraheta, Sarah Alexander, Melissa Gilbert, Jamilly Fernandez, Amy Romero and Denise Polanco





Lynn Tech junior Roberto Brown uses a SMART board to conduct a lesson on rangem median and mode.

PHOTOS: MEAGHAN CASEY

## Tech students help peers prep for MCAS exams

By MEAGHAN CASEY

A dozen Lynn Vocational Technical Institute students have been moving to the head of the class, assuming the role of teacher to their peers.

The school introduced a vocational integration program last year in which math teachers worked alongside vocational teachers to integrate math into the technology of the shop. The model was a great success in terms of increasing classroom engagement and helping students become proficient on the math portion of the MCAS. From 2011 to 2012, the percentage of students scoring proficient in math increased from 22 percent to 33 percent, and the

percentage scoring advanced more than doubled from 12 percent to 25 percent.

“The results were staggering,” said Kevin McDormand, an ELL math teacher at the school.

Unfortunately, because of a spike in enrollment, there were not enough teachers available to continue the project this year – that is, until 12 juniors who earned 4.0 grade point averages in their honors math classes as sophomores entered the equation. McDormand and Kim McFarlane, Assessment & Data Services coordinator, have been working to organize the program and train the students.

“Kim and I knew these kids could teach the material, but we had some fears about classroom management,” said McDormand. “But these kids are unbelievably good. Even as a natural optimist, I would not have expected them to be as good as they are. My goal is to get into administration, and I want to hire these kids.”

“I see a volunteer spirit,” math teacher Julio Bare said. “They know they are doing something important for themselves and others.”

The student teachers work with McFarlane, McDormand and

Bare to prepare their lessons on Mondays and Tuesdays and go into the classroom to teach Wednesday-Friday, every other week. Typically, 2-3 student teachers work with 10 sophomores in each shop. They are not receiving any incentives or class credits for teaching, but are looking at it as a valuable form of community service.

“Last year I had a great math teacher who helped me, and I thought it would be great if I could help some of the sophomores to get good scores,” said student Jacqueline Garcia.

Garcia has not only gained a new respect for teaching, but also a new career goal. “My plan has always been to go into the Marines, but now I also want to come back to Lynn Tech to teach,” she said.

Roberto Brown, an electrical engineering student, also went into the experience with a goal of helping other students, and has enjoyed taking on the leadership role.

“I wanted to do this because I thought it would be easier for them to relate to and listen to someone their own age,” said Brown. “The important thing is to make sure they know what you’re talking about, and can retain it.”



Lynn Tech juniors who are serving as tutors for other students include, from left: Nelson Lopez, Billy Ferreras, Roberto Brown, Christian Gueveara, Eric Villanueva, Richard McIntosh, Guelmi Espinal, Samantha Shepherd and Jacqueline Garcia.



# Around Lynn Schools



Joan Generazzo interacts with her son, Paul, as teacher Moira Hussey looks on at Ingalls School.



Ingalls teacher Karen Remson helps Dominic Sullivan at the T.E.A.M.S. breakfast.

### INGALLS ELEMENTARY

Ingalls Elementary School hosted its annual open house and pancake breakfast for parents of students in the T.E.A.M.S. (Together Educating and Advancing Multi-handi-capped Students) program at the school. The Ingalls T.E.A.M.S. faculty has carried on this yearly tradition, inviting parents to enjoy breakfast and spend the morning at school with their children.

The T.E.A.M.S. program provides specialized instruction to students who typically have multiple disabilities and developmental delays. Classes serve students with cognitive, lan-

guage, and motor delays that impact overall functioning. Students' needs in the areas of communication, self-care, social, recreation/leisure, and life skills are addressed within the school environment.

The program offers a full range of therapies, as well as access to adaptive technology for leisure and communicative opportunities. The inclusionary experiences embrace the school setting.

Instruction is provided in small groups and on a one-to-one-basis. The teacher-student ratio is small enough so that each student is able to have his or her unique needs met to reach



### PICKERING MIDDLE SCHOOL

Pickering' Chills and Thrills dance was a great success. "It builds community among the students and teachers," said new Principal Kevin Rittershaus. "Those relationships build trust and that leads to a better learning environment." Students had a fantastic time at the dance. "It was a blast," said student Jessica Maurice, while Lauren Moorehouse called it "the best dance ever!" The gym was decorated to its finest thanks to a number of teachers, but most of the credit goes to art teacher Angeliki Russell.



### LYNN WOODS

For the seventh year in a row Wendi Whitcomb and Shawna Hemenway created a magical production at the Lynn Woods School. This year the Drama Club presented a flawless performance of "101 Dalmatians." The children practiced for weeks and the hard work was evident. The talent, costumes and set design captivated both sold-out audiences.

On April 6 at 11 a.m. the Lynn Woods PTO will be hosting the Wolf Trot, its first ever 5K race. The event hopes to promote the importance of fun through fitness.

### BREED MIDDLE SCHOOL

Teacher Kathie White's math classes at Breed Middle School were chosen to pilot the NBA Math Hoops game. NBA Math Hoops leverages the influence of the NBA and WNBA among the nation's youth to generate excitement for learning math.

NBA Math Hoops has formed partnerships with the National Basketball Association and Hasbro Games to create an innovative, fast-paced, competitive simulated basketball board game which teaches and applies important fundamental math skills. Students use real-world NBA and WNBA player data to compete against classmates in timed, simulated basketball games.

"I am very excited about this game as are my students," White said. "When they say real-world NBA and WNBA players, they mean it! The students draft a team, using Rajon Rondo, Maya Moore, Diana Taurasi, LeBron James, Dwight Howard, Pau Gasol, and others. It's great! The students use the player's card which has their picture on the front and their statistics on the back. We will eventually use a shot clock which sounds like the real NBA horn!"

White said her dream would be for Rondo, a Boston Celtics star, to come and see the student involvement in this endeavor. "I know he loved math in school and still does, so that would be a real inspiration for my students," she said.

# Lynn Public Schools Directory

## Elementary schools

### Aborn

Patricia Muxie, Principal  
409 Eastern Ave., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7320

### Brickett

Eileen Cole, Principal  
123 Lewis St., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7333

### Callahan

Edward Turmenne, Principal  
200 O'Callaghan Way, Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7340

### Cobbet

Dr. Brian Fay, Principal  
40 Franklin St., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7341

### Connery

Dr. Mary Dill, Principal  
50 Elm St., Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7344

### Drewicz

Bernadette Stamm, Principal  
34 Hood St., Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7350

### Ford

Dr. Claire Crane, Principal  
49 Hollingsworth St., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7375

### Harrington

Debra Ruggiero, Principal  
21 Dexter St., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7380

### Hood

Gayle Dufour, Principal  
24 Oakwood Ave., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7390

### Ingalls

Irene Cowdell, Principal  
1 Collins Street Terr., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7400

### Lincoln-Thomson

Helen Psallidas Mihos, Principal  
115 Gardiner St., Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7460

### Lynn Woods

Ellen Fritz, Principal  
31 Trevett Ave, Lynn, MA 01904  
781-477-7433

### Sewell-Anderson

Patricia A. Mallett, Principal  
25 Ontario St., Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7444

### Shoemaker

Patricia Riley, Principal  
26 Regina Road, Lynn, MA 01904  
781-477-7450

### Sisson

Jane Franklin, Principal  
58 Conomo Ave., Lynn, MA 01904  
781-477-7455

### Tracy

Patty Griffin, Principal  
35 Walnut St., Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7466

### Washington

John Licorish, Principal  
58 Blossom St., Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7401

## Middle schools

### Breed

Julie Louf, Principal  
90 O'Callaghan Way, Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7330

### Marshall

Dr. Richard Cowdell, Principal  
19 Porter St. Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7360

### Pickering

Kevin Rittershaus, Principal  
70 Conomo Ave, Lynn, MA 01904  
781-477-7440

## High schools

### Classical

Gene Constantino, Principal  
235 O'Callaghan Way, Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7404

### English

Thomas Strangie, Principal  
50 Goodridge Street, Lynn, MA 01902  
781-477-7366

### Lynn Vocational Technical Institute

Diane Paradis, Director  
80 Neptune Blvd, Lynn, MA 01902

## Alternative/Special schools

781-477-7420

### Fallon Elementary

Nancy Takic-Conway, Principal  
100 Robinson St. Lynn, MA 01905  
781-477-7470

### Fecteau-Leary Junior-Senior High

Maura Scully, Principal  
33 North Common St. Lynn, MA 01902  
781-268-3000

### LEEP Evening Program

Karen Twomey, Director  
50 Goodridge St., Lynn, MA 01902



# Breed teacher plants seed for hands-on learning

BY PAUL HALLORAN

As part of their Nature Friday classes this fall, teacher Annette Hoyt's students installed a raised garden bed between Breed Middle School and the teachers' parking lot. Students first leveled the ground by digging at one end and adding bricks to the other. They also gained experience in using levels to make sure the wooden bed was set evenly on the ground. The Lynn DPW helped by dumping a truckload of rich, black dirt into the wooden structure. Hoyt's students then raked it into the wooden frame.

Installation of the 4x8x2-foot raised garden bed is phase 1 of Hoyt's experiential, hands-on science/math project that will take students through the school year. The next step is to have students plant crocus bulbs in a grass field adjacent to this site, which will happen before the first frost. In February, Hoyt's students may start growing a few tender



Annette Hoyt and her students are proud of the final product.

plants in Breed's greenhouse.

In the classroom, Hoyt's students are also caring for many houseplants, taking cuttings to grow new plants. In March, her students will try to plant heartier vegetation, such as early lettuce and radishes, in the raised bed. In early April, they may plant carrots and then move onto planting flowers by the middle of the month if the weather cooperates. The culminating piece to this project will take place just before the end of the school year, when students will plant corn which should be ready for harvest on the first day of school next year.

Inspired at a young age by her father, a botanist, Hoyt learned about science through a love of growing plants, exploring gardens and walking through the woodland areas around her home in northern Wisconsin. She enjoys sharing these passions with her students at Breed Middle School.



Students begin to dig and prepare the area for the garden to be installed.



Students rake the rich dirt from the Lynn DPW truck into the garden.

## Classical best friends earn prestigious Posse scholarship

**POSSE:** from Page 1

Fortunately, Frias and Kebede did not have to wait long after their final interviews, which were held a week apart; both got a call informing them of their acceptance within an hour.

"It was 57 minutes to be exact," Kebede said. "I was so excited."

Frias and Kebede were encouraged to apply for the Posse Scholarship by Girls Inc. Teen Program Director Catherine Dhingra — a Denison graduate — and the guidance staff at Classical, which had 11 seniors apply for the scholarship.

The Posse Scholarship is offered to students in nine major cities nationwide: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York

and Washington, D.C. Students applying through the Boston office can choose from six partner universities: Bryn Mawr, Bucknell, Centre College, Denison, Hamilton and Union.

Frias, who wants to be a journalist, chose Denison because she wanted to get "far away" and the university has a good communications program and school newspaper. Kebede picked Bucknell because she wants to be an engineer and Bucknell's engineering program is one of the top 10 in the country.

Kebede received some assistance from Kevin Bettencourt of Peabody, a former basketball standout at Bucknell. When she told Tom Gould, owner of Treadwell's ice cream store and a Peabody city councilor, and Classical Principal Gene Constantino

that she was interested in Bucknell, they connected her with Bettencourt, who contacted the admissions office on her behalf.

Both young women realize the opportunity they are being given.

"My mom always told me, the only thing she is leaving me is (the importance of) education," Frias said. "The fact that I can pay her back (by getting the scholarship) is a thank you to her. She is proud of me."

"A lot of people get intimidated by the thought of college but I always knew I wanted to go," Kebede said. "Posse gives me that opportunity."

Both students are in the National Honor Society at Classical. Frias has participated in track and the yearbook, while Kebede has played basketball and tennis and served

as a member of the Key Club. They are among a group of seven best friends who call themselves the "circle of trust." They are coming to grips with the fact that they will be going their separate ways in a matter of months.

For now, Frias and Kebede are attending weekly meetings with their respective Posse groups, which include 10 students. They work on team building, cross-cultural communications, leadership and academics. They will visit their colleges in May. After they start classes in the fall, they will meet regularly with a Posse representative at their school.

"The support system will help us feel comfortable with the new experience," Kebede said.



# SPORTS

THE LYNN EDUCATOR

## PIN KING



Lynn English senior Jonathan Boudreau is already a professional at age 17.

PHOTO: LYNN JOURNAL

## English senior hopes to strike it rich as professional bowler

BY PAUL HALLORAN

Lynn English senior Jonathan Boudreau would like to be a teacher someday, and in that role he would obviously be charged with instructing people younger than him. Based on how well he does with his elders, that should be no problem.

At the ripe age of 17, Boudreau has already taken many older competitors to school as a professional candlepin bowler. That's right, a professional – at age 17.

"I had won more than 50 titles in kids' tournaments," Boudreau said. "I had a 120 average when I was 16, so I figured I was good enough to start bowling with the big guys."

He was right.

Since turning pro in the summer of 2011, Boudreau has earned some good paychecks, most recently winning \$500 for placing first in a New Year's tournament in East Boston. He averaged just over 133 for five strings and, while that sounds very impressive, the reality is that he was only about three pins over his 130 average – which is obviously impressive.

Boudreau earned \$900 for finishing fourth in the Easter Classic in Nashua last year, and \$250 for winning a pro-am doubles event on NESN in December. It beats stocking shelves at the local supermarket.

"Ever since I was little I knew I wanted to go pro," he said. "There is kind of an unwritten rule that you wait until you're 18, but I thought I was ready."

Boudreau was introduced to the sport when he was three by his

parents, Bernie and Janice, who ran a league at Jim Barber's Lucky Strike Lanes. He started entering – and winning – youth tournaments when he was eight. He was averaging 120 by the time he was 14, so it became a question of when – not if – he would turn pro.

Boudreau bowls in a pro league at Lucky Strike and as a fill-in on a Lucky Strike team on the pro tour. He is the youngest of the young generation of Lynn pro bowlers, a group that includes Shawn Baker, Dave Barber (Jim's son) and Dave Richards. They are following in the footsteps of local legends: Joe Tavernese, Mike Morgan and Jim Barber.

Boudreau, who recorded a new high single of 190 in early January and has a high triple of 453 and 5-string total of 731, had a chance to bowl with one of his idols, Peter Flynn, in the World Team Tournament in Nova Scotia in 2011. In the same tournament this year, Boudreau had the highest average – 128 – of all participants.

He carries a 3.6 GPA at English and is looking at Salem State University. He hopes to teach English some day. He doesn't really have time for a lot of extracurricular activities; when he is not studying, he's bowling.

Just to show he has his priorities straight, he was interviewed for this story on a Wednesday, the day he would typically bowl in a league at Lucky Strike, but said he would be not be bowling that night. Why?

"Midterms tomorrow," he said.

