

Thanks to our Longwood hosts for some special hospitality and for serving up a gorgeous autumn day for our second LISPAN network meeting. The group was welcomed by Superintendent Michael Lonergan, Assistant Superintendent Debbie Winters, and Longwood LISPAN network reps Neil Klatsky and Darlene Dorcinvil. Hats off also to our LISPAN steering committee and other network reps who made the trip out from Nassau County.

Districts in attendance were as follows:

Longwood  
Smithtown  
Middle Country  
Great Neck  
Jericho  
Levittown  
Sayville  
Roosevelt  
North Babylon  
Hicksville  
Mattituck  
Miller Place  
Westury  
Bayport-Blue Point  
Shoreham Wading River

Debbie Caputo from Western Suffolk BOCES gave an excellent overview of the Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) curriculum. She also has a list of your e-mail addresses and will send you additional information. I am copying her on this e-mail if you want to reach out to her for staff training in your home district. This is an 8-hour course which may be sub-divided into multiple days, and is ideally suited for classroom teachers, coaches, teacher aides, and those staff who do not have a mental health background. It teaches the mental health warning signs to intercept a youth-at-risk and how to effectively and confidently listen and respond to their concerns.

PREPaRE a and 2 training will be offered at Western Suffolk BOCES in January, 2016. Registration is now open in My Learning Plan. Go to MLP and click on the Western Suffolk BOCES catalog on the left side of the page, then scroll to January. If your district does not participate in MLP, please contact Susan Kessler in WSB Student Support Services at [skessler@wsboces.org](mailto:skessler@wsboces.org). She will assist you with registration.

LISPAN network meetings are open to member districts and to any district rep who may want to learn more about joining the network. Our next meeting will be on Friday, November 20th in the Levittown School District from 8-10am and will feature a viewing of the active shooter video entitled "Lockdown" and a tabletop activity about how our home crisis teams might have responded to similar event. Our December 18th meeting will take place at Madonna Heights from 8-10am and feature a presentation by Dr. Tom Demaria, crisis intervention expert from C. W. Post. More details will follow on each meeting...

Remember to visit [safeschools.ny.gov](http://safeschools.ny.gov) to watch an excellent video on NY State's School Safety Planning efforts. You can also download a copy of the entire document and register for updates to your e-mail address. This is a document that each LISPAN member should be intimately familiar with.

Thanks to all who attended. We are seeing the LISPAN network grow week by week and learning that the best advocacy is personal contact from our current members to our potential members. Our 2015-2016 goal is to recruit at least 25 of all 125 Nassau-Suffolk school districts. Thanks to all for their commitment to this mission.

Tony Pantaleno  
LISPAN, Coordinator