



BOB LANIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Vanguard Magnet and International Baccalaureate World School



Good afternoon Purple Pups and Families,

The 2023 – 2024 school year is upon us! The purpose of this communication is to share essential information regarding the upcoming school year. Our goal is to ensure that every student is prepared for success. We are excited to see everyone on August 28th for the first day of school. Monday will be a **PURPLE DAY**; all students will report to their P1 class.

Schedules

PowerSchool will be activated on **Sunday** for students to view their schedule. If you cannot log in, there will be staff stationed throughout the building on **Monday morning** to direct students to their P1 class, where students will receive a copy of the schedule. Please note that not every student can get their class preference, we try our best but due to class sizes and scheduling limitations it is not always possible. We will share information on how to request a schedule change during PUPs class the first week. Again, not every request can be honored.

Traffic

Please follow the attached map to navigate your path around our campus. Due to ongoing construction in the neighboring communities, it is imperative that everyone is mindful that a direct path to or from Lanier could be altered due to detours. Give yourself a couple extra minutes this week for your arrival in the morning and please be patient with the procedures both in the morning and afternoon during pickup. Please remember there are no parking zones around campus, you will not be able to leave your car unattended. Click [here](#) for a link to our traffic map.

Bell Schedule

The bell schedule for the 23-24 school year has been updated to allow more time for student support while maximizing student learning time. The updated bell schedule is attached. [2023-24 Bell Schedule Lanier .png](#)

School Supplies

Lanier [school supply lists](#) for the 2023-2024 school year are posted on our [school website](#); supplies must be purchased at local stores. Students will use lockers where backpacks will be kept during the school day.

School Website

Our school website is a great resource for all Lanier families. The [student resource](#) section includes our bell schedule, school supply lists, and much more.

Technology

The \$25 PowerUp Yearly Student Device Fee is being **waived** for the 2023-2024 school year. Students and Parents should be reminded they may be held responsible for cost related for replacement of a lost or stolen device or accessories, or damage due to purposeful action or gross negligence. Students and parents must complete the ***Student Device Loan Agreement*** form before being issued a laptop. Student laptops will be distributed during the second and third weeks of school.

Lockers

Lockers will be assigned during the first week of school. Please make sure to bring minimal supplies until you receive your lockers. You will need your backpack, a notebook, writing utensil, and lunch (if you choose to bring it). You will have plenty of time to bring your other supplies for the second and third weeks of school.

Lockers are grouped by PUPS class. Each locker includes a built-in combination, which they will be given when assigned their locker, no locks will need to be purchased. We are aware many students have stress related to their lockers and are here to provide support as they become comfortable.

- Once lockers are assigned, the students' backpack and all other belongings should be kept in the locker. Many of the classrooms are small and become overcrowded if students bring their backpacks.
- No food should be stored in the lockers overnight.
- Students should make a plan as to when they will go to their locker and what they need for classes. It is sometimes easier to bring the material for a couple of classes, rather than visit their locker after every class.

IDs

All students will be issued a school picture ID during the first week of school, which will be worn around his/her neck every day. Replacement IDs will cost \$5.00.

Uniforms

The student [uniform policy](#) is listed on our Lanier website. The uniform store will be open from 8:00-9:00am on Monday August 28th.

[Lanier PTO Uniform Store online shopping](#)

Transportation

Zoned and magnet students who reside two or more miles (as measured along the shortest route that may be traveled on public roads) from Lanier are eligible for transportation services at district-designated stops. Families who have not already requested transportation through the Google course selection form, can email the Lanier transportation coordinator, Mrs. Garza Pender- jgarza8@houstonisd.org. The HISD transportation department uses the address listed in HISD Connect/Power School to determine a student's closest route and stop, so please ensure your address is up to date in Power School. It can take up to 10 business days for the HISD transportation department to process a new request once it is input in HISD Connect. Please ensure you have a backup means of transportation if you have not already requested transportation.

The HISD Transportation department communicates student route and stop information via email and/or phone. The transportation department contacted families the week of August 14th with route and stop information. If you did not receive your student's route and stop information, call the campus main number 713-942-1900. Please ensure your student knows both their assigned route number (a four-digit number beginning with a 1, 2, 3, or 4, not to be confused with the number painted on the side of the bus) and their designated stop. Students need this information to find their bus in the morning and afternoon. If your student will use HISD transportation in the morning, please ensure he/she arrives at the designated stop at least 10-15 minutes before the designated pick-up time. If your student will use HISD transportation in the afternoon, he/she must report to the cafeteria area by 4:07pm. Busses are released by 4:10pm each day.

Students cannot utilize HISD transportation until the HISD transportation department assigns the student a route and stop. Students may only utilize the route and stop assigned by the transportation department.

All transportation concerns should be directed to the Lanier transportation coordinator, Mrs. Garza Pender.

After Care

Lanier PTO is excited to provide an After Care program to our campus. Based on interest, we plan to begin the program the week of September 11th. The program hours will be 4 pm - 6 pm and staffed by Lanier teachers/staff and students will do homework independently. Families will register their students for a semester at a given price. For families that want to use the service occasionally, there will be a drop-in option, at \$25/day. Please email lanieraftercare@gmail.com to express your interest in the program.

Volunteering on a PTO Committee

Our PTO is always looking for additional families to help run the various committees of the Lanier PTO. The PTO supports our school community in many ways. Please visit

<https://tinyurl.com/PTOVolunteering> to indicate interest in volunteering some of your time with our Lanier MS PTO.

PTO Communications

The Lanier PTO uses Membership Toolkit for our website and communications system. On the site, you can see upcoming calendar events, access the spirit wear and uniform store, and learn about volunteer opportunities. The Purple Page, Lanier PTO's weekly newsletter, will be sent via the Membership Toolkit platform, so registering is vital to ensuring you stay up to date on all Lanier news. Please visit <https://lanierpto.membershiptoolkit.com/> and register to see everything your PTO has to offer. If you have additional questions, please email lanierptoweb@gmail.com.

Lanier Athletics

Our Fall Lanier athletic season is coming soon. The Fall athletics season includes Football, Volleyball, and Cross Country. If you are interested in trying out for any of these programs, please make sure you have completed the required HISD athletic paperwork as soon as possible. An athlete cannot participate in any workout or tryouts until paperwork is completed and submitted in Register My Athlete. All paperwork and links can be found on the Lanier Athletics website <https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/25729>.

Cross Country – Practices will start in September. Look for more details in the coming weeks.

Football – Practices will start on Tuesday August 29th from 4:15 – 5:45pm on the fields. Please make sure you are dressed in shorts, T-shirts, tennis shoes (cleats if you have them), and have a WATER BOTTLE!

Volleyball – 8th grade tryouts will be Wednesday and Thursday August 30th and 31st from 4:15 – 5:45pm in the gym. 7th grade tryouts will be Tuesday and Wednesday September 5th and 6th from 4:15 – 5:45 pm in the gym. Please be dressed for tryouts with shorts, t-shirts, tennis shoes, water bottle, and kneepads. The volleyball coaches will have open gym on Monday and Tuesday August 28th and 29th to answer questions and let the girls play from 4:15- 5:45pm.

We are looking forward to a great athletics year!

If you need additional assistance, please reach out to your child's grade level administrator:

Administrator	Grade Level/ Support	Email
Michelle Cummings	6 th grade	MCUMMING@houstonisd.org
Shanda Davis	7 th grade	shanda.davis@houstonisd.org
Charles Kaspari	8 th grade	charles.kaspari@houstonisd.org
Nicolette Alleyne	6 th - 8 th Special Ed	Nicolette.Alleyne@houstonisd.org

Cary Cooper	6 th -8 th grade Discipline	CCOOPER2@houstonisd.org
Stephen Cabell	Testing Coordinator/Athletic Director	SCABELL@houstonisd.org
Jennifer Garza Pender	Magnet Coordinator /Transportation	JGARZA8@houstonisd.org
Rodrigus Graham	IB Coordinator	rodrigus.graham@houstonisd.org
Mor Regev	8 th grade & 6 th grade M-Z Social Worker	mor.regev@houstonisd.org
Emeka Okonkwo	7 th grade & 6 th grade A-L Social Worker	emeka.okonkwo@houstonisd.org
Grette Valle	Wrap Around Specialist	greta.valle@houstonisd.org