

# The Purple Page



Lanier Middle School 2600 Woodhead St. Houston, TX 77098 (713) 942-1900 August 23, 2013

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 23 Football Orientation	4-8p
Aug 24 Football Orientation	8a-12p
Aug 26 First Day of School	
Aug 30 PTO General Mtg & Welcome Coffee	8:15a
Sep 2 Labor Day - No School	
Sep 5 Cherrydale Kickoff	
Sep 13 Fall Holiday - No School	

## BACK TO SCHOOL UNIFORM STORE/LANIER GEAR HOURS

### First Week of School

Monday, August 26, 2013 7:30AM-8:30AM  
Tuesday, August 27, 2013 7:30AM-8:30AM  
Wednesday, August 28, 2013 7:30AM-8:30AM  
Thursday, August 29, 2013 11:30AM-1:00PM  
Friday, August 30, 2013 12:30-2PM

### Regular School Year Hours

Beginning September 5  
Mondays 7:30am - 8:30am  
Thursdays 11:30am - 1pm  
Fridays 12:30pm - 2pm

## PTO NEWS

### LANIER PTO PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Purple Pup Parents,

I trust that you had a safe and enjoyable summer. As we ready ourselves to begin another great school year, I'd like to take this opportunity to again welcome new and returning families. The Back to School Night was well attended.

I am looking forward to meeting families, parents, and grandparents who would like to get involved with our PTO. Please join me for our first **PTO general meeting on Friday, August 30, at 8:15am** in the school library. In order to be successful, the PTO needs the support and involvement of the parents of our students, the faculty and staff at Lanier Middle School, and the business leaders in our community. Be sure to visit our new website [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org). The website has all the latest information about upcoming PTO events, volunteer opportunities, who to contact with questions, and much, much more. We in the PTO believe that it is of utmost importance that we do everything we can to enhance the learning environment of

our children, as they truly are our future. It will take all of us working together to ensure that this happens.

I look forward to working with you on what I hope will be another amazing year at Lanier Middle School.

Sincerely,

**Michal Lutfak**

Lanier Middle School PTO President 2013-2014

[lanierptopres@gmail.com](mailto:lanierptopres@gmail.com)

### GET CONNECTED!

The Lanier MS PTO is very excited to announce the launch of its new ONLINE STUDENT DIRECTORY. Lanier parents, faculty, and staff can stay connected by securely accessing the Online Student Directory from any internet-connected device, including smart phones.

We currently have information on less than half of the student body and we want MORE! If you did not receive an email from [lanierptodirectory@gmail.com](mailto:lanierptodirectory@gmail.com) on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, asking you to confirm the information we have in the system for your family, please go to <http://bit.ly/lanierfamily> and input your information. After entering your student's last name and your email address, it only takes a couple of minutes. To protect the privacy of our Lanier family, there is a confirmation process before access to the directory is granted to everyone. You also have the ability to "hide" your personal information, if desired.

We want your family to be part of our family! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

**Marilyn Stauss**

[lanierptodirectory@gmail.com](mailto:lanierptodirectory@gmail.com)

Lanier PTO Directory Committee

### WHAT DOES THE PTO DO FOR ME?

The PTO is the official voice of the parents and the teachers. By joining the PTO, you show your commitment to maintaining the standard of excellent that Lanier Middle School enjoys today. The PTO supports Lanier in many ways, including the following:

- Provide academic support to the teachers in many ways.
- Provides \$250 per teacher for school supplies not provided by HISD.
- Funds various campus upgrades and renovations.
- Publishes *The Purple Page*, which keeps parents informed about the school as well as maintains a Lanier PTO website, [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org).

These are just a sampling of the ways the PTO makes Lanier better! This support is not possible without your support, both financial and personal.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

### UNIFORM AND LANIER GEAR STORE

Parents are needed to staff the school store for all shifts during the school year. This is a really easy and enjoyable way to meet other parents and learn a lot about Lanier. To learn more and/or volunteer, please visit the online sign-up sheet at:

[www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0949ADAE23A57-lanier6](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0949ADAE23A57-lanier6)

### TEACHER APPRECIATION

*Monthly; Begins on September 27*

The Lanier faculty and staff are world-class and one of the ways the PTO tells them how much we appreciate their commitment is to provide lunch once a month. If you are interested in assisting in meal coordination, visit the sign-ups at

[www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FAAAC2EA13-teacher](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FAAAC2EA13-teacher)

[www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FAAAC2EA13-lanier](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FAAAC2EA13-lanier)

### CHERRYDALE FUNDRAISER

*September 5 through September 20*

Each year, Lanier sponsors a Cherrydale product sales contest benefiting the school. Although this event is sponsored by the school, parents are asked to volunteer to help the school administrators with collecting forms and proceeds and distributing product. To volunteer, contact Maria Marini, [marinistefan@gmail.com](mailto:marinistefan@gmail.com) or [laniervolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:laniervolunteers@gmail.com)

### JOIN THE LANIER PTO!

Show your support and commitment and be the official voice of Lanier's parents and teachers. By joining the PTO, you become part of a team that's dedicated to providing the resources and financial support to the staff and programs that make Lanier an outstanding learning environment.

**Family PTO Membership dues are \$10, and Teacher PTO Membership dues are \$5. To pay membership dues online, visit [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org).**

### LOOKING FOR A CARPOOL?

Use the new carpool forum on [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org) to talk to other parents and swap information about your carpool needs. Visit [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org) and look under the FAQs menu.

### ONLINE PAYMENTS AVAILABLE!!!

Through our wonderful new PTO website, [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org) you can now pay for the following online using a credit card: Lanier PTO membership, Commitment to Excellence donation, Paver order, and Great 8 dues. Supporting the school has never been easier! Visit [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org) for more information.

## PURPLE PUP SPORTS BOX

### FOOTBALL ORIENTATION

All the incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders interested in playing football this school year are expected to attend the **2013 Football Orientation**. It will be held on **Friday, August 23** from 4-8pm and **Saturday, August 24**, from 8-noon. Please have all ATHLETIC PAPERWORK completed and a COMBINATION LOCK so that you can receive a locker and football equipment at the orientation. All paperwork

can be found on the [www.purplepups.org](http://www.purplepups.org) football webpage. Please see or contact Coach Kirkpatrick at [lkirkpat@houstonisd.org](mailto:lkirkpat@houstonisd.org) with questions.

### BOYS CROSS COUNTRY 2013 SEASON

All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys interested in participating in Cross Country need to attend the informational meeting that will be held on **September 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:35pm** in Room 222.

Please e-mail Coach Keenan at [kkeen@houstonisd.org](mailto:kkeen@houstonisd.org) with any questions.

## LANIER LINES

### 2013-2014 NJHS APPLICATION DEADLINES MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) of Lanier Middle School is an honor organization whose purpose is to recognize students who excel in academics as well as leadership, citizenship, service, and character. This organization is open to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who maintain a grade point average of 3.7 or above, an E average in conduct, and have evidence of participation in community service projects outside of Lanier. Applications will be accepted for review by the NJHS committee in the Fall for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and the Spring for 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

- For all students interested in applying there will be a meeting held **September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:15am** in room 216.
- All incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in joining NJHS will need to turn in their completed applications by **September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013**.
- All incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in joining NJHS will need to turn in their completed applications by **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014**.
- Applications are available on the NJHS website. <http://laniernjhs.weebly.com/>

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Keenan or Mrs. Millican at [kkeen@houstonisd.org](mailto:kkeen@houstonisd.org) or [cmillica@houstonisd.org](mailto:cmillica@houstonisd.org)

## COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE!

**Commitment to Excellence** is one of Lanier Middle School's largest fundraisers. It is an opportunity for parents to support programs that benefit their students during the short but influential three years of attending our school. Every year that parents donate, their contributions benefit programs such as new technology for the classrooms, a new lighting system for the auditorium, training for teachers and administrative staff, supplemental classroom curriculum, and much more.

This year's **Commitment to Excellence** theme is facilities improvement and classroom support. Your gift will allow Lanier to support technology purchases and campus improvements to the gymnasium and athletics fields to ensure that each and every child at Lanier gets the best education possible.

When considering your donation, please keep in mind that **every single dollar truly makes a difference**. Please review the suggested donation levels and choose an

amount with which you are comfortable to show your support of Lanier.

**NEW!! The donation levels and incentives have changed, so please carefully consider your donation level.**

**If your company offers a matching gift program, please turn in the company matching gift form along with your donation.**

It's easy to contribute; here are a few options:

- Go online at [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org) and use your credit card to pay or
- Make a check payable to Lanier Middle School PTO-CTE.

Commit to Lanier Middle School—make a *Commitment to Excellence*.

#### **Levels of Donation**

##### **Sidney Lanier Leadership Society**

**\$1926+**

- PTO Membership
- A Lanier Middle School car sticker
- Recognition in the *Lanier Purple Page*
- Your name on an 8" x 8" paver on the grounds of Lanier
- Recognition on [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org)
- Your name on the Lanier marquee in January
- Your name on a plaque

##### **Poet Society**

**\$1000-1925**

- PTO Membership
- A Lanier Middle School car sticker
- Recognition in the *Lanier Purple Page*
- Your name on an 8" x 8" paver on the grounds of Lanier
- Recognition on [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org)
- Your name on the Lanier Middle School marquee in January

##### **Champion**

**\$500-999**

- PTO Membership
- A Lanier Middle School car sticker
- Recognition in the *Lanier Purple Page*
- Your name on an 8" x 8" paver on the grounds of Lanier
- Recognition on [lanierpto.org](http://lanierpto.org)

##### **Super Star**

**\$250-499**

- PTO Membership
- A Lanier Middle School car sticker
- Recognition in the *Lanier Purple Page*
- Your name on a 4" x 8" paver on the grounds of Lanier

##### **Star**

**\$35-249**

- PTO Membership
- A Lanier Middle School car sticker
- Recognition in the *Lanier Purple Page*

##### **Scholar**

**\$10**

- PTO Membership
- A Lanier Middle School car sticker

## **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE PURPLE PAGE**

Please follow the guidelines below for any submission to the Purple Page:

- Submit articles to [purplepageeditor@gmail.com](mailto:purplepageeditor@gmail.com)
- All articles are subject to approval by Ms. Smith.
- All submissions are due by **5:00pm on TUESDAY**, but **EARLIER is BETTER!!** Later submissions must have principal approval.
- If your submission needs to be translated, it must be submitted **by Tuesday 9:00am**.

Please create a Word Document (Font: Arial, size 10) for all submissions as an attachment to your email.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

It's early, but Lanier's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Party with a Purpose has already been slated for February 22, 2014. Do put it on your calendar as this is a fun, fabulous event that benefits our incredible school. This year's "Purpose": Campus Improvement and Technology! Save the Date!

## **NOTES FROM THE EDITOR**

All information contained in the Purple Page is correct as of 9am, August 22, 2013, and has been printed with the approval of Linda Smith, Lanier Principal.