

The Purple Page



Lanier Middle School 2600 Woodhead St. Houston, TX 77098 (713) 942-1900 August 30, 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 2	Labor Day - No School	
Sep 5	Cherrydale Kickoff	
Sep 5	NJHS Informational Meeting	7:15a
Sep 5	Boys Cross Country Mtg	3:35p
Sep 10	6 th Grade Evening Open House	
Sep 11	7 th Grade Evening Open House	
Sep 12	8 th Grade Evening Open House	
Sep 13	Fall Holiday - No School	

PTO NEWS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Purple Pup Parents,
What a great first week! My kids and I were definitely ready to start the new school year.

We had our first general PTO meeting this morning -- thank you to all who attended. We had a great turn out. We shared some terrific ideas and found some new volunteers.

Be sure to visit our new website lanierpto.org, where you can find the latest PTO events, volunteer opportunities and more. Now you can pay for PTO membership, Great 8, and CTE donations through the website!

We hope you can get involved in your child's education by supporting the PTO with your time and your financial support.

I would like to congratulate two of our very own students: **Nicholas Gonzalez** and **Mary Polydoros** for receiving the TAPHERD (Texas Association of Physical Education Health Recreation and Dance) outstanding student of the year award 2012-2013. They have received this award for being the first students to address the HISD school board, in the spring of 2012, with important health and P.E concerns. Nicholas and Mary supported the HISD School Health Advisory Council's recommendation that Recess will be a mandatory daily requirement for all HISD Elementary students. The school board voted to accept the recommendation and later turned that recommendation into a district policy. Great job!

We're off to a terrific year!

Michal Lutfak

Lanier Middle School PTO President 2013-2014

www.lanierptopres.org

LANIER ONLINE DIRECTORY

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 on Monday, August 19th, 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

Lanier PTO Directory Committee

GET SIGNED UP FOR

VIPS (VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS)!

All of our wonderful volunteers need to be registered in HISD's VIPS system. It's easy to do! **If you completed VIPS registration during the 2012-2013 school year (at any HISD campus)**, you will only need to bring in your State ID/Driver's License to Office B (Main Office) so that they can make a copy and re-activate your status in VIPS. **If you did not complete VIPS registration during the 2012-2013 school year**, you will need to register online at www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin AND present photo ID in Office B.

Questions? Contact email Maria Marini at

laniervolunteers@gmail.com

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

LOOKING FOR A CARPOOL?

Use the new carpool forum on lanierpto.org to talk to other parents and swap information about your carpool needs. Visit lanierpto.org and look under the FAQs menu.

BUS ROUTE CHANGES

Please go to the following link to request a bus route/stop change: <http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/25620>.

Please keep in mind that changes will not be made during the first 2 weeks of school. Once we balance out the routes we will contact you regarding the status of your request. Thank you for your patience.

Also, if your son/daughter's bus is late please call the motorpool at [713-613-3049](tel:713-613-3049). Please have your child's route number available when you call.

Mark Prucha, Magnet Coordinator

Kris Page, Magnet/Transportation Clerk, Office C

School Uniform Store/Lanier Gear Hours

Regular School Year Hours

Beginning September 5

Mondays 7:30am - 8:30am

Thursdays 11:30am - 1pm

Fridays 12:30pm - 2pm

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 7th and 8th 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 8th graders and the Spring for 7th graders.

*For all students interested in applying there will be a meeting held **September 5th at 7:15am** in room 216.

*All incoming 8th grade students interested in joining NJHS will need to turn in their completed applications by September 17th, 2013.

*All incoming 7th grade students interested in joining NJHS will need to turn in their completed applications by January 15th, 2014.

*Applications are available on the NJHS website.
<http://laniernjhs.weebly.com/>

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Keenan or Mrs. Millican via e-mail at kkeen@houstonisd.org or cmillica@houstonisd.org

PURPLE PUP SPORTS BOX

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY 2013 SEASON

All 7th and 8th grade boys interested in participating in Cross Country need to attend the informational meeting that will be held on **September 5th at 3:35pm** in Room 222*. Please e-mail Coach Keenan at kkeen@houstonisd.org if you have any questions.

***Please note the date has changed**

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE!

We are very excited that donations for this year's **Commitment to Excellence** campaign have already begun! Thank you to the following families for being among the first contributors of the school year:

The Davenport Family
The Hieshima Family
Ron, Kathy, and Jack Kahanek
The Kalamangalam Family
The Lipper Family
Jennifer Mashburn
Sophia Synek and Family

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 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.

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 to lanierpto.org and use your credit card to pay or

Make a check payable to Lanier Middle School PTO with CTE in the memo line.

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
- 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
- Your name on the Lanier 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

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

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

All information contained in the Purple Page is correct as of 9am, August 29, 2013, and has been printed with the approval of Linda Smith, Lanier Principal.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE PURPLE PAGE

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

- Submit articles to 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 2nd 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!