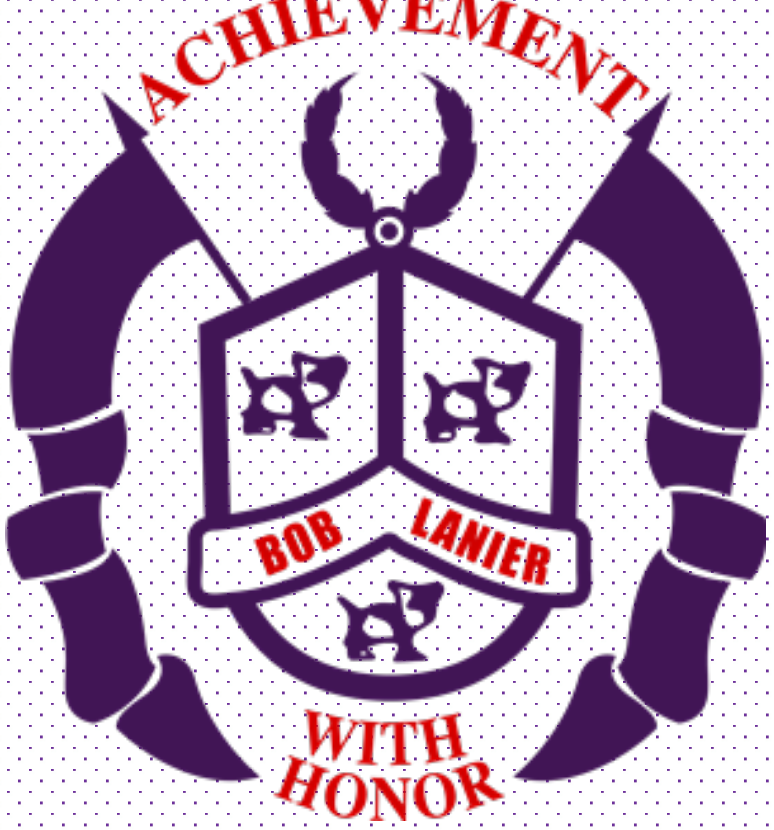
2021-2022

WE'RE IN IT TOGETHER!



LANIER
Middle School PTO

GENERAL PTO MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

LANIER Middle School PTO

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 27, 2021 (Approved)

III. PRESIDENT REPORT

- Welcome and Welcome Back!
- PTO Overview – Free to Join!
- Fall - Virtual Meetings
- Visit the Website and FacebookPage – Lanier Middle School Parents Incoming & Current

Wendy Montoya Cloonan

PTO President

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IV. TREASURER REPORT

- Introduction
- Teacher Classroom Setup Support – up to $250 to support teacher classroom supplies
- Teacher Special Project Support – special project grants for which teacher submits request to administration and then to PTO, for extra curriculum and project support
- Action Item: approve spending for uniform orders to stock store with hoodies and sweatshirts (Approved)

Cheryl Fullmer

PTO Treasurer

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V. PRESIDENT – ELECT REPORT

- Introduction

Heather Peterson

PTO President - Elect

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VI. VP OF COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

- Introduction
- Overview of PTO Communications
  - PTO Website contains helpful information and parent resources: lanierpto.digitalpto.com
  - PTO publishes weekly PurplePage on Sunday evenings which contains school information and PTO information so you don't miss anything
  - Can find a link to all PurplePages on the PTO website under "Quick Web Links"

Rebekah Maddux El-Hakam

PTO VP of Communications

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VII. VP OF SOCIAL/COMMUNITY EVENTS REPORT

- Introduction
- Overview of Events in School

- PTO provides a Fun Friday lunch for teachers and staff each month; this year it will have an IB angle when possible and tied to cultural heritage months with the help of Model UN teacher Ms. Dimitrijevic to provide historical and fun facts.

- Parent-Teacher Social – no students attend; tickets go on sale via the Purple Page this Sunday and on the PTO webiste; come out and meet teachers and new parents
  - Save the Date: Thursday, October 14th at Café Brasil
  - 6th grade: 4:30-6:00
  - 7th grade: 6:00-7:30
  - 8th grade: 7:30-9:00

Chiarra Stratton

PTO VP of Social /Community Events

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VIII. VP FINANCIAL SUPPORT REPORT

- Uniforms – discussed new hoodies and sweatshirts to come; PurplePage always details when school store is open
- Capital Projects– Ms. Foster and students love the new auditorium stage; gym now has fresh paint and mats and a picture was sent out in the PurplePage a couple of weeks ago

Jessy Morgenroth

PTO VP of Financial Support

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IX. VP VOLUNTEERS REPORT

- Introduction
- Please always check the PurplePage for ways to donate your time and talent.
- volunteersforlanier@gmail.com to help us!
- Currently looking for parents to help with the International PTO with Ms. Maja

Dawn Miller

PTO VP of Volunteers

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X. VP OF FUNDRAISING REPORT

- Introduction
- Raise Your Paws for a Cause (Formerly known as Commitment to Excellence) kicks off Monday, September 27 (see flyer to follow) and information in this Sunday's PurplePage
- Corporate Sponsorships always help! Please let us know if your company can donate!
- Pup Paw-ty Time Birthday Announcements go on sale Monday, September 27 and information in this Sunday's Purple Page
- Spring Auction - TBD

Stephanie Kusinski

PTO VP of Fundraising

Raise Your Paws for a Cause!

bit.ly/LMSRaiseYourPaws

- September 27 – October 31
- Different donation levels available with some fun LMS swag!
- Donate at any level by October 14 to receive a Free Dress Pass!
- Donate online today!
- Any amount helps!

Some things the LMS PTO has provided or is planning on providing this year include:

- Resurfaced auditorium stage and instrument storage
- Painted walls and installed mats in the gymnasium
- Traffic safety
- Curriculum support Extra power cords for all of the classrooms

LMS Corporate Sponsorships

New giving levels and new benefits!

Please reach out if you have any business leads to share

Questions? Want to become a corporate sponsor?
Contact us at laniersponsorships@gmail.com

Pup Paw-ty Time Announcements!

- $35 to have birthday announcement on the marquee
- $25 to have birthday announcement during the morning announcements
- $50 for both!
- Your child receives a vinyl sticker on their celebration day!
- On sale Sept. 27 – Oct. 31

The Fine Print:

- *Limited to 6 announcements of each type per day (first come, first served basis)*
- *Weekdays only, no school holidays or breaks*

Spring Auction

- Stay tuned for details!
- Please reach out if you would like to volunteer your time to help us plan this fun event!

Fundraising.Lanier@gmail.com

Amazon Smile!

- Don’t forget to select “Lanier Middle School PTO” as your Amazon Smile charity!
  - Use it on your phone AND on your desktop!
    - *You must renew it twice a year on your phone app…a push notification will be sent to you to do so*
- As of Aug. 2021, LMS PTO has received $1,045

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XI. SECRETARY REPORT

- Introduction

Shannon Witz

PTO Secretary

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XII. HISD LIAISON REPORT

- School Choice Magnet Open Houses via Teams
  - Saturday, October 2, 9am – 12pm
  - Saturday, October 16, 9am – 12pm
  - Saturday, October 30, 9am – 12pm
  - https://www.houstonisd.org/choosehisd for more information

- Superintendent Community Meetings – see flyer to follow

Kristin Collins

PTO HISD Liaison

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

LISTEN & LEARN

A CONVERSATION WITH SUPERINTENDENT MILLARD HOUSE II

HISD SUPERINTENDENT MILLARD HOUSE II is hosting a series of community town hall meetings to listen to input from the community about the district's future and learn about key issues that are important to stakeholders.

9/20/21 | 6:00 – 7:00 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING
https://bit.ly/3kFvf2z

9/21/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
YATES HS
3650 Alabama, 77004
Trustee Patricia Allen
District IV

9/22/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
HEIGHTS HS
413 East 13th, 77008
Trustee Elizabeth Santos
District I

9/23/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
CHÁVEZ HS
8501 Howard, 77017
Trustee Daniela Hernandez
District III

9/27/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
CARNEGIE VANGUARD HS
1501 Taft, 77019
Trustee Judith Cruz
District VIII

9/28/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
WESTBURY HS
11911 Chimney Rock, 77035
Trustee Myrna Guidry
District IX

9/30/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
BELLAIRE HS
5100 Maple, Bellaire, TX 77401
Trustee Sue Deigaard
District V

10/01/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
SHARPSTOWN HS
7504 Bissonnet, 77074
Trustee Holly Maria Flynn Vilaseca
District VI

10/04/21 | 5:30–6:30 P.M.
LAMAR HS
3325 Westheimer, 77098
Trustee Anne Sung
District VII

10/06/21 | 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
WASHINGTON HS
4204 Yale, 77018
Trustee Kathy Blueford-Daniels
District II

Please note all dates and times are subject to change.
Visit HoustonISD.org/ListenAndLearn for the latest updates.

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XIII. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT

- Introduction

Mary Lee

PTO Parliamentarian

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XIV. PRINCIPAL REPORT

- Lanier Culture – zero tolerance for bullying
- Vandalism that has occurred - $50 reward offered for students who come forward with information
- Open House – September 28; links sent through PUPS class and via school sendout email

Dave Wheat

Lanier Principal

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Q&A WITH MR. WHEAT and WENDY

- Best place to get updates on everything happening: Purple Page every Sunday evening!
- What is the address for the PTO Website? https://lanierpto.digitalpto.com
- I need online support for logging in to HISD online tools such as the HUB, Parent Connect – etc.: Please visit https://www.houstonisd.org/domain/7888 and you can also visit the PTO webpage and click on Parent Resources then Student Online Programs from the drop-down menu

Families in Houston choose HISD because they know we are doing some of the most innovative, ambitious work in the country to ensure all of our students receive a high-quality education. Here are a few important resources to help parents and students navigate the district.

Temporary Online Learning

Office 365

PowerUp HUB

Grades (Parent Portal)

Forms

Guide

Information parents need to know for 2021-2022

Download HISD's plan for in-person learning for 2021-2022

Download parent guide

Español: Plan de Seguridad Para el Regreso a Clases

Español: Guía Para Padres de HISD: Regreso a Clases 2021-2022

Tiếng Việt: Kế Hoạch Trở Lại Trường

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- There are 2 Facebook Pages? There is only 1 Lanier Middle School PTO page which posts highlights and information and you don't need to request permission to join. There is also a Lanier Middle School Parents Incoming and Current parent group where parents can share information or post questions and we try to help answer - you will need to answer 2 questions to join

- What is Great8? For current 8th grader parents, you can find more information at laniergreat8@simplesite.com for fun activities for your 8th grader

- How do I subscribe to the Purple Page? Visit the PTO website, click on Quick WebLinks, then in the drop-down menu select PurplePage Newsletter and you can see a button to join the mailing list

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- When does Raise Your Paws for a Cause fundraising campaign go live? Monday, September 27th. Look for the link to donate in the Purple Page Newsletter this Sunday evening. The school appreciates any and all donations. We've created a new look for this year. This was the fundraising campaign formerly known as CTE for those returning parents.

- When is Open House? Open House will be Tuesday, September 28th. The links were sent out by Mr. Wheat. We will also post them in the Purple Page.

- When can we expect communication from cluster leaders? It was noted that some cluster leaders are more communicative then others. Mr. Wheat responded will have a meeting and let cluster leaders know they need to be active in communicating with parents.

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- What is a cluster leader? Each grade is divided into three clusters, L,M or S based on the core curriculum teachers of your student. For example, 6th grade has 6L, 6M and 6S. There is one main core teacher in each cluster who is assigned as the "cluster leader" teacher. We will post in the Purple Page.

- What is the best way to get in contact with Mr. Wheat? If it is class related, he suggests discussing with the teacher first, and if to no avail, reach out to the grade assistant principal for help. If you still need assistance, Ms. Saldana is his right-hand and you can email her if urgent. rsaldana@houstonisd.org

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- Who are the assistant principals? Visit the Lanier website, click on About Us from the top headers, and select Lanier Leadership Team from the drop-down menu.
- How are you helping with students that complain specifically of the hallway between the gym and cafeteria? Mr. Wheat will continue monitoring this hallway.
- Can you post the new uniform shirt somewhere so we can see it? Yes, we will post on the Purple Page or PTO Website shortly.

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Q&A WITH MR. WHEAT and WENDY

- Who is the 504 contact? Anam.Bhamani@houstonisd.org She is new to the school.
- Do students attend the Parent-Teacher social? No, they do not.
- What is the email if I want to volunteer? VolunteersforLanier@gmail.com

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- What is procedure for Temporary Online Learning in case it happens to us? You sign up from the HISD website as quickly as can to get in the queue. Then you will receive an email from the school and follow the procedures in the email to logon. It is also a good idea to contact the teachers and ask for assignments if they do not post them on the HUB.

- I am not receiving Mr. Wheat's emails: please email KNguyen@houstonisd.org to confirm the address you want for school emails.

- My student was in Temporary Online Learning but counted absent? You are not alone. It is automatically generated. Please contact Ms. Nguyen above and we ask for your patience as she is getting inundated.

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XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Parent-Teacher Social: Thursday, October 14th, 4:30 – 9:00 at Café Brasil
- Raise Your Paws for a Cause Annual Fundraiser: September 27 – October 31
- Visit the Lanier PTO Website and Lanier PTO Facebook Page
- Lanier PTO and School Events Combined Calendar on PTO Website
- Next General PTO Meeting is Wednesday, November 17