

**EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO
KNOW ABOUT**

LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL
(BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK)

2008-2009 Edition



Statement of Langley Saxon Pride

I am entrusted with the responsibility of upholding and
contributing to an atmosphere of mutual respect,
honesty, and fairness.

My personal honor is essential to preserving my good name and
the integrity of the Langley community.

Without honor, I have nothing.

WELCOME TO LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL!

The following questions and answers are offered in hopes of easing your transition to Langley. We want every student to have a positive high school experience. The Principal of LHS is Matt Ragone. Class Administrators are:

Fred Amico, Class of 2009

Tommy Meier, Class of 2010

Jessica Statz, Class of 2011

Michelle Norell, Class of 2012

Current PTSA President Michelle Shaw, 703-893-4515, and President-Elect Andrea Sotter, 703-356-2488, are happy to answer any questions you may have about life at Langley. Please don't hesitate to give them a call.

GENERAL INFORMATION

How early does the school open? When does it close? Langley opens at 7:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Classes begin at 7:20 a.m. and dismiss at 2:10 p.m. On Wednesdays, classes begin at 8:20. The school will still open at 7:00 a.m. for make-up work, tutoring and other student services. Administrative offices and the library remain open until 4:00 p.m. At the beginning of each school day, students recite the Pledge of Allegiance and observe one minute of silence. Non-participating students may sit or stand quietly during the pledge and the moment of silence.

How will I find my classrooms the first few days? All classrooms numbered in the 100's (107, 134, etc.) are downstairs; classrooms numbered in the 200's (202, 226, etc.) are upstairs. There are maps posted at the end of every hallway. Rising 9th graders visit Langley during the school day to meet with administrators, counselors and staff. Orientation for freshman, other students new to Langley and their parents will be held at the end of August. Don't hesitate to ask questions. Langley students, faculty and administrators are ready to help.

Where do parents drop students off when they drive them to school? Students should be dropped off in front of the school only. Keep in mind the driveway in front of the school is **ONE WAY**. Cars dropping off students should form a single lane of traffic along the sidewalk only. **Do not go into the side parking lot when buses are arriving between 6:40 and 7:40 am – you will get stuck!** Parents of students with special needs should speak with the Safety and Security Office at 703-287-2708 to arrange the safest drop-off and pick-up locations. School personnel will be directing traffic flow during the opening and closing of school.

When are students given locker assignments? Locker assignments are given within the first two weeks of school. Report any problems with lockers to the Safety and Security Office, 703-287-2708, or ask for help in the Main Office.

Does Langley have late buses? Yes, late buses are provided every Monday around 3:45 p.m. at the regular bus pick-up locations. Routes are posted on the main gym lobby door and in the main office. Questions about

late buses should be directed to the Safety and Security office.

Can a student ride a different bus home with another student? Yes, but each student needs a note from his/her parent attached to a bus permission slip from attendance.

Is extra academic help available from teachers or other Langley students? Yes, many teachers stay after school to help students. Don't hesitate to ask your classroom teacher for help. The National and Foreign Language Honor Society members also tutor students. A list of student and adult tutors in the area is available in the Student Services Office.

How do students buy lunch? Cash is accepted in all lunch lines. Personal account numbers called "SNAP" accounts are issued to students by Langley Food Services. Checks payable to "LHS Food Service" will open new accounts or add to existing accounts from your previous Fairfax County Public School. Bring checks to the cafeteria manager before school or during any regular serving period, or mail to the Food Service Manager, LHS, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. Checks should include the student's first and last name, and either the FCPS student identification number or the current SNAP account number if available. Never share your SNAP account number with other students. Questions about food services should be directed to the cafeteria manager at 703-287-2721. You can also visit <https://www.mylunchmoney.com/index.aspx> to find out how to pay online.

May I leave campus for lunch? No. Fairfax County Public School students may **not** leave their school campus for lunch. Langley has four lunch shifts. The center courtyard is open when weather permits. All food and beverages must be consumed in the cafeteria or courtyard.

Are jackets, backpacks, or chewing gum permitted during the school day? Yes, but teachers have the right to limit any activity in their classrooms at any time. Hats are not allowed.

Can you use your cell phone during the school day? **No.** Cell phones are allowed to be carried but cannot be out or used during the school day. Pay phones are available upstairs in the lobby area near the front office, and downstairs near the cafeteria.

Is there a dress code for students? Yes, there is a Fairfax County school dress code. Please refer to your **Students' Rights and Responsibilities** Handbook. Students should come to school dressed for the business of learning and are expected to adhere to the dress code. Items such as see-through shirts, halter or bare-shoulder tops, and clothing that expose the midriff or undergarments are **not** allowed. Extremely short skirts, short-shorts and skirts with slits high up on the leg are **not** to be worn to school. Clothing that elicits an "inappropriate message," is disruptive or obscene or

promotes the use of weapons, tobacco, alcohol or other drugs is **not** permitted. Clothing and paraphernalia, such as metal belts and large chains, that denotes gang affiliation is **prohibited**. Shoes or sandals **must** be worn at all times. Students who violate the dress code will be given additional clothing to wear, or parents will be contacted and asked to promptly provide appropriate clothing.

Who may park in the student parking lot? All eligible seniors may obtain parking permits for \$150 for a parking pass for the year. Juniors enter a lottery system at the end of their sophomore year for a limited number of parking permits. Under special circumstances, students who require temporary parking passes should contact the Safety and Security Office at 703-287-2708.

Do I need a hall pass? Any student outside a classroom during a class period must have their assignment notebook with them, signed by the teacher who permitted the student to leave their classroom.

When do students use computers at Langley? Langley encourages the use of its technology across all grade levels and in all classes, under the direction of faculty. The library's computer lab is open for student use for homework assignments before and after school each day. Computer printouts cost 10 cents per page.

When can I go to the library? How can I get a library card? Are there fines for overdue books? The library is open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. A pass from a teacher is required to enter the library during any of the seven class periods. A limited number of passes to the library are distributed during lunch in the cafeteria hallway. Students do not need a library card to check out library materials. The student photocopy machine is located in the library. Students may purchase a \$1.00 photocopy card which allows them to make 10 copies. Coins may also be used in the machine at a cost of 15 cents per copy. The fine for an overdue library book is 10 cents per school day. The maximum fine per item is \$10.00. The fine for overdue overnight material is \$1.00 per school day.

As a freshman, will there be students of all grade levels in my classes? It is possible to share classes with students from every grade level. This is especially true in math and foreign language classes, and many electives.

All students take physical education as freshmen and sophomores. What do students wear during gym? Are students required to shower after class? Students purchase a Langley High School gym shirt and shorts at the beginning of the school year. Be sure to bring sweat pants and a sweatshirt to wear outside on colder days. Showers after gym class are not mandatory.

COMMUNICATION and PUBLICATIONS

What is the Saxon Scroll? Daily announcements, activities, schedule changes and important information for, students and teachers are shared during the first period of

each day via the Saxon Scroll publication. The Leader is posted daily on the LHS web site: <http://www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS>. Parents are encouraged to visit the site regularly.

When will I receive a student directory? The PTSA provides each student with a complimentary directory. Extra copies are available for \$5.00 each at Back to School Nights, or from the receptionist in the main office.

What is the PTSA newsletter? The PTSA publishes a monthly newsletter that is e-mailed to every family. It contains important school information and a detailed calendar of events. If you wish to receive your newsletter by US mail, please submit a completed opt-in form, which you can download from the PTSA website at <http://www.langleyptsa.org/>.

What are the student publications? *The Saxon Scope* is the school newspaper published monthly by journalism students. The school literary magazine, *Shropshire*, is published in the spring of each year. The *Shire* yearbook is produced annually.

ATTENDANCE and STUDENT SERVICES

Absences: If a student is absent from school, the parent or guardian must call the Langley Attendance office answering machine, 703-287-2727. If you forget to call you must send a note to the attendance office within 48 hours. The absence will be unexcused if notification is not received within 48 hours. Three unexcused absences will result in failure for the quarter; **any** five unexcused absences during the school year will be reported to the cluster attendance officer which may result in a complaint being filed with the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Tardiness: If a student is late to school, the student **must** check in at the attendance office before going to class. The parent or guardian must send a note with the student to submit to the attendance office. The note should include the student's reason for tardiness and expected time of arrival. Three unexcused tardiness will result in one unexcused absence.

Early Check-out (Planned or Emergency): If a parent or guardian needs to remove a student from school during the regular school day, the student must submit a note to the attendance office by 9:00 am on the same day. **Please try to schedule doctor/dental appointments after the close of the school day.** When students miss class, they are at a disadvantage and are responsible for obtaining the lecture and or review material covered that period. If an **emergency** arises and a student must leave school but does not have a note, the parent or guardian **must speak with the attendance secretary**, 703-287-2719 or 703-287-2830, before the student will be given a pass to leave school.

Pre-Arranged or Planned Absence from School: A parent or guardian must send in a note to the Attendance Office five days before, but no later than 48 hours before,

the date of any planned student absence. This note should include specific absence dates and the reason for the absence. Once the note is submitted, the student will receive a pre-arranged absence form, which should be signed by each of the student's teachers before being returned to the attendance office for processing. **After being signed by the teachers, the note must be returned to the attendance office in order for the absence to be excused.**

Are there Detention and Suspension Rules? Every Langley student and parent must review and sign the Fairfax County Public Schools "Student Rights and Responsibilities" distributed to all students the first two weeks of classes. This document clearly outlines expected behavior and types of behaviors for which students may be disciplined. The administrators will visit all students in their English classes to discuss expected behavior and consequences for inappropriate behavior.

How are Guidance Counselors assigned? Guidance Counselors are assigned alphabetically by students' last names. Unless there are unexpected personnel changes, you should have the same counselor throughout your four years of high school.

How do I arrange to see my Guidance Counselor? Appointments are made in the Office of Student Services. You will receive a pass which must be initialed by your teacher before leaving for the appointment. After seeing your counselor, you must go by the attendance office window to have your pass recorded and stamped so that your class absence will be excused.

STUDENT ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

Which sports and activities begin in August?

All fall sports, including football, field hockey, cross country, golf, cheerleading, dance team, volleyball and marching band begin in August. For specific start dates, check the LHS website and click on the sports link.

What are the requirements for participation? Students are required to submit a completed emergency care card and a physical dated **after May 1st** for the upcoming school year in order to tryout or practice. Physical exams are offered at school each June for a nominal fee. In May, dates and times for scheduling appointments will be announced in the Langley Leader and the PTSA newsletter. Virginia High School League (VHSL) physical forms are available in the Student Activities office. Forms are also available on the LHS website by clicking on the sports link.

What about winter and spring sports? Some winter and spring sports may require that the athletes be in town during school vacations. Check with coaches for more information.

What clubs are available and how do I join? Students will receive a Langley Clubs and Activities list during orientation. Copies are also available in the Student Activities office. Club Day is held each fall during lunch

periods in the courtyard so that students new to Langley can ask club members questions and sign up for activities that interest them. Juniors and seniors can be selected for National Honor Society. Key and Keyette Clubs have members in Grades 10, 11 and 12.

When are school elections held and who is eligible to run for office? Any Langley student in good academic standing who has completed the required recommendation forms may run for office. Elections are held in September for freshmen and late spring for upperclassmen. Details of all school elections are announced in the Langley Leader.

What do the initials SGA, SAC and PTSA stand for? They stand for *Student Government Association*, *Student Advisory Council* and *Parent Teacher Student Association*, respectively.

Where is the weight room and when is it open to students? The weight room is located next to the girls' locker room near the main gym. All Langley students may use the weight room and are encouraged to do so. A schedule of weight room hours will be posted at the start of each sports season. To ensure safety, an adult supervisor must be present at all times when students use the equipment.

When are pep rallies held? Pep rallies are usually held on the same day as a major sporting event. These school-wide assemblies are held in the stadium or the main gym at the end of the school day. Students who choose not to participate may go to the cafeteria. Langley pep rallies are fun and promotes school pride and spirit before sporting events.

Is hazing a part of athletics at Langley? Hazing in any form is forbidden at Langley. Any violation of this rule should be reported immediately to a coach, teacher or administrator.

How much does it cost to attend athletic events? Will event schedules be distributed? Varsity football tickets are \$5 and winter and spring regular season events are \$4 per ticket at the door. All adults and students need to purchase tickets to attend athletic events. The Langley Athletic Boosters offer several levels of membership which include season passes. By purchasing a membership, you receive a pass for every family member to all regular-season home games, in addition to other membership benefits. Schedules of all athletic events are included in the PTSA newsletter preceding fall, winter and spring sports seasons. For Booster information and sports schedules visit the activities website at <http://www.langleysports.org/>.

Who is Otto? Otto is the Langley Saxon school spirit mascot. The cheerleaders and Director of the Office of Student Activities select and introduce the new Otto at the first fall pep rally.

What are the school colors? Langley's school colors are forest green and old gold with white as a trim color.

How does Langley celebrate Homecoming?

Homecoming festivities take place during spirit week and include a football game Friday night and a dance on Saturday night.

Spirit week plans will be finalized by the SGA officers during their class officer elections. During spirit week, freshmen wear and decorate in green, sophomores in yellow, juniors in blue, and seniors in red.

All students are encouraged to participate in Homecoming activities. Sign up and follow events on your class bulletin board in the hallway outside the main office. Plan to wear your class T-shirt and colors on Color Day. All activities are supervised by adults and nothing dangerous is permitted.

The Homecoming Dance is intended for all Langley students. You do not have to have a date. Limousines, expensive dinners and formal dress are not necessary. This is not a fall prom. Appropriate dress is coat and tie for guys and party dresses for girls. Corsages and boutonnieres are nice if you have a date, and some students plan pre-dance dinners as a group at a restaurant or at a student's home. In the past, tickets to the Homecoming Dance have been sold during Spirit Week lunch periods.



LANGLEY "DOs" AND "DON'Ts" LIST

- DO** come to Freshman/New Student Orientation and locate your classes.
- DO** purchase your class T-shirt during Spirit Week and wear it proudly on Color Day.
- DO** your best - grades count - even your freshman year.
- DO** keep all class notes and returned tests to review for Midterm Exams and Finals.
- DO** buy a heavy-duty lock for your gym locker, and use it.
- DO** go to your teachers and/or Guidance Counselor if you are having trouble with schoolwork
- DO** label your valuables and secure them in your locker. Engrave your calculator.
- DO** bring a lunch from home until you figure out the lunch line.
- DO** join activities, clubs and sports, and community service activities.
- DO** be a trainer or manager for the sport of your choice. See the PE teachers for details. There are a very limited number of positions available.
- DO** get a school-sponsored physical in June. Notices will go out to all students who sign up for a fall sport. It saves a lot of time and expense.
- DO** be organized - use your student planner/assignment book.

- DO** carry quarters and dimes for an emergency. Calls from school pay phones cost \$.50.
- DO** attend all class functions, especially your class dinner.
- DO** attend games, concerts, & drama productions and show your Saxon Pride!
- DO** deposit trash in trash bins and place bottles and cans in appropriate recycle boxes.

- DON'T** bring expensive valuables to school (watches, jewelry, cassette players, etc.)
- DON'T** bring food or beverages into school hallways or classes.
- DON'T** leave school grounds without permission.
- DON'T** be afraid to try out for school sports, plays, chorus, etc. Go for it!