

# Lanier PTA News

October 2009



Sidney Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 (703) 934-2400 [www.fcps.edu/LanierMS/](http://www.fcps.edu/LanierMS/)

## Calendar



### October

7 Interims Mailed Home  
12 Columbus Day Holiday  
14 PTA Meeting, 7 PM  
20 - 21 Hearing & Vision  
Screening  
26 Picture Retakes  
30 End of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter

### November

11 Veteran's Day Concerts,  
7 PM  
19 - 22 Musical at Lanier  
25 2-hour early dismissal  
26 & 27 Thanksgiving Holiday

### December

5 Festival of  
Lights, Fairfax City  
7 Chorus Concert, 7 PM  
9 Orchestra Concert, 7 PM  
15 Interims Mailed Home  
15 Band Concert, 7 PM  
16 Band Concert, 7 PM  
23 Early Dismissal  
24 Winter Break Starts

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## A Message from the Principal

Dear Lanier Parents:

Welcome back! Students and staff are already setting into the routines and rhythms of school, and I thank you for helping facilitate your student's transition back to the classroom. During this time of year I often get asked, "What can I do to help my son or daughter be successful in school?" I have put together a list of 5 steps that help answer this question. Please know that these suggestions are based on research conducted by the National Education Association, the University of Delaware and the Parent Institute:



- **Actively demonstrate your value for learning.** Your modeling is a powerful incentive to your child's learning. If they see you doing it, then they know it's worthwhile and can identify with you. Young people tend to pay much more attention to what you do rather than what you say.
- **Show a non-threatening interest in your child's learning.** This means that you care and want to know what your child is learning, but not for purposes of criticism or surveillance. If your son or daughter believes that you are constantly just "looking over their shoulder," they will begin to avoid discussions about school or worse—they may begin to resent schoolwork for the oppression it brings at home.
- **Get involved at Lanier.** Get to know your child's teachers and what they expect. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to create a FCPS 24-7 Learning account of your own called Parent View. Doing so gives parents the opportunity to view their student's Touch (KIT) message system. Receiving KIT messages will enable you to receive my weekly email to parents that includes important school updates and both of these son or daughter is doing at school is important.

- **Develop a Study Plan and Stick to It.** Set a specific “quiet time” every day for homework or general reading. Involve your child in setting the rules and post them in your house. Children are more likely to follow rules that they helped create. Check with teachers and your Parent View account to see how much homework to expect for your child.
- **Consistently offer your child a sincere expectancy that he or she can learn.** In order to learn, children must believe in themselves. While much of this attitude is influenced by the work they do in school and the feedback they receive from teachers and other students, students are most influenced by their parents. Whatever you say or do regarding their ability to learn will have a major impact on your child's self-concept as an effective learner.

My experience as an educator leads me to believe that attention to the little things can make all the difference. I hope and believe that following these suggestions will help bring out the best in your child.

Sincerely,  
 Scott Poole  
 Principal

## PTA President's Letter

Dear Lanier Families,

On behalf of the PTA I would like to welcome everyone back for another great year at Lanier. This will be my first year as PTA President, as I step in after Diane Mortiere, who was a LMS PTA President for 8 years. I am an alumni of Lanier and it is overwhelming to see how it has changed over these many years. I have a daughter who is an FHS Class of 2009 graduate, now attending the Corcoran College of Art & Design, and a son in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

I encourage every family and teacher to join the PTA. Individual membership is \$10 per person. By becoming a member you help us support LMS staff and our students. You also will receive a student directory that will be sent home in November.

Our PTA meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, with a few exceptions for holidays. All meeting reminders will be sent via Dr. Poole's, Friday KIT.

You need to update your Safeway, Giant and Target membership every year. Please make sure you do this and designate Lanier as one of your schools.

The PTA has a new goal to fulfill this year and that is to “go green”. Our newsletter will not be sent home unless you fill out the Opt-In form in this newsletter. We are also hoping to have all forms and information regarding all PTA events online for your convenience. We will continue to use email to contact you for volunteer opportunities. This is a work in progress and any help or ideas that you might have would be greatly appreciated.

We will follow traditions at Lanier with the “Lights on Lanier” student and staff basketball game in February. At the ever popular “Live At Lanier” students provide the talent for this wonderful evening of fun and excitement for the whole family. This event will happen early spring.

New to Lanier will be “Spirit Dining Nights”. Many of our local restaurants will offer a special night for Lanier families to dine out together, with a percentage of the proceeds going to our school.

As I take on the roll of PTA President this year I feel honored to have such a strong board combined with a tremendous group of program chairs and volunteers. Many of our volunteers have already been hard at work. I would like to thank all our students and parents who helped put together over 1150 packets that were sent home to each family and to those who helped out at Locker Night.

Thank you to all the families that have already joined the PTA and volunteering your valuable time. Please feel free to contact me at [pwagner58@aol.com](mailto:pwagner58@aol.com) or (703) 591-0927 with any questions or comments.

Warm Regards,  
 Pam Wagner  
 PTA President

## PTA Meeting Dates for 2009/10

Please save the following dates for Lanier PTA Meetings. We generally meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome to come. Be one of the first to know what is being planned by joining us in the Library at 7PM for a lively discussion on what is happening in your child's school. Our meetings open with a report from our Principal followed by the officers and committee chairs. Sometimes we have a special speaker about a topic of interest.

October 8  
November 10 (Tuesday)  
December 9  
January 13  
February 10  
March 10  
April 14  
May 12  
June 9

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## Do You Want the PTA Newsletter to Continue to be Mailed to Your Home???

The Lanier Middle School PTA Newsletter is "going green" this year. The monthly PTA Newsletter will be posted on the Lanier Middle School website. An email from Keep in Touch will let you know when the newsletter is posted to the Lanier Middle School website.

If you desire a paper copy mailed to your home, please let us know with one of the two following methods:

- 1) Complete the form attached to the end of this newsletter and return it to the school office

OR

- 2) Email April Breeden, PTA Newsletter Distribution Coordinator, at [higha1975@hotmail.com](mailto:higha1975@hotmail.com) and provide her with your student's name and your name. Please place Newsletter OPT-IN in the subject line.

NOTE: The newsletter will be mailed to the address that Lanier Middle School has on record for your student.

## News from the Office of School Counseling

Welcome back to school! We were very glad to see, from the very first day of school, that Lanier students seemed excited to be back and eager to learn. We welcome students and parents to see us about any concerns you may have throughout the school year.

### How to reach us:

**Students** .....may stop by in the mornings before your first class. Mrs. Williams will be in the cafeteria in the mornings. Mrs. Bowers, Mr. Kamins, and Mrs. Ranallo will be in or near our offices in the mornings. Students may also come see us during the school day with their teacher's permission and a pass. Pride Time is usually a good time to do this. Always check in with your teacher and get a pass **before** coming to guidance, so your teachers know where you are!

**Parents** ....please call or email us at any time to discuss concerns about your students.

- Frances Wood –Director of Student Services  
[Frances.wood@fcps.edu](mailto:Frances.wood@fcps.edu), 703-934-2430
- Patti Bowers (Lead Counselor) - Dolphins Team, Stars Team  
[Patricia.bowers@fcps.edu](mailto:Patricia.bowers@fcps.edu), 703-934-2432
- Dayle Ranallo – Patriots Team, Champions Team  
[Dayle.ranallo@fcps.edu](mailto:Dayle.ranallo@fcps.edu), 703-934-2431
- Adrian Williams – Pandas Team, Explorers Team  
[Adrian.williams1@fcps.edu](mailto:Adrian.williams1@fcps.edu), 703-934-2435
- Mitchell Kamins – Lions Team, Diplomats Team  
[Mitchell.kamins@fcps.edu](mailto:Mitchell.kamins@fcps.edu), 703-934-2433
- Patty Cuellar – Student Information Assistant, Registrar  
[Patricia.cuellarvalverde@fcps.edu](mailto:Patricia.cuellarvalverde@fcps.edu), 703-934-2430
- Margarita Cappell – Parent Liaison (Español)  
[Margarita.cappell@fcps.edu](mailto:Margarita.cappell@fcps.edu), 703-934-7286
- Matthew Lee – Parent Liaison (Korean)  
[Won.lee@fcps.edu](mailto:Won.lee@fcps.edu), 703-934-2417

### Upcoming important dates:

- ❖ September 29, 7 p.m.: 8<sup>th</sup> grade Back to School Night

There will be several "pre-meetings" before Back to School Night begins:

- Parent View Sign-up 6:00-7:00P.M., Library
- AVID Parent Meeting 6:30-7:00P.M., Room 220
- ESOL Parent Meeting 6:30-7:00P.M., Room 125
- Special Education Meeting 6:30-7:00P.M., Room 105

- Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Preparation Class 6:00-7:00P.M., Choral Room

### **The Foreign Language Credit Exam is coming!!**

The Foreign Language Credit Exam program is designed to test students' native language proficiency so that they can earn credit toward fulfilling the World Language requirement for the Advanced Studies Diploma. Students need to register online at [www.fcps.edu/DIS/OHSICS/forlang/creditemam](http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/OHSICS/forlang/creditemam). Online registration begins on Monday, September 21 at 8:00 am and must be completed by Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. Please see your school counselor for further information on this program. Languages included in this program are Amharic, Arabic, Bengali/Bangla, Chinese/Mandarin, Farsi/Persian, French, German (new), Hindi, Japanese (new), Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog/Pilipino, Twi, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

### **Forms, Forms, more Forms**

*One last note:* Parents, thank you for completing the many, many forms that need to be completed and signed at the beginning of each year! There was one form that was in the August mailing that we also ask that you send back in (it was **not** one that was required for students to get a locker): The Fairfax County Public Schools Ethnicity and Race Survey Form. This is something the county requires of each student. Thank you for your help with this!

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## Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Calendar of Events

Monday, September 28 - Students make pick up an application for TJ in the Counseling Office.

Saturday, October 10 – Open house at TJ for all interested students and parents

Wednesday, October 21 – Applications and checks due to Counseling Office

Saturday, December 5 – Test Day

Saturday, December 12 – Snow date for testing

Friday, January 22 – Semifinalist pool notification to all applicants begins

Tuesday, February 16 – Student Information Sheets and Teacher Recommendations due to counselors

Friday, April 2 – Final Notification for Admittance to TJ

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## Admission into the National Junior Honor Society

**By Mike Savage**

The Sidney Lanier Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society promotes recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of Scholarship, Character, Leadership, Citizenship, and Service.

At the end of the third quarter Fairfax County tabulates student grade point averages. Those 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with a GPA of 3.7 or higher (90%) have met the first step of the criteria for selection.

The second major criterion for admission into the Society is character. The student of character consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior. The NJHS student:

- Has respect for others
- Demonstrates standards of honesty and reliability
- Upholds principles of morality and ethics
- Complies with school regulations

Students who have demonstrated these major qualities throughout the school year are invited to apply to the NJHS, whereby they must show evidence of leadership, citizenship, and service.

Applications are submitted to a Faculty Advisory Committee and qualified students are welcomed into the Society. Induction into the Sidney Lanier Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society takes place at the end of the school year.

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## Late Bus Schedule

Late buses are available on the following days for Lanier students:

- Mondays at 4:10
- Wednesdays at 4:45
- Thursdays at 4:45



# Special Education Tidbits

By Jan West, Special Education Teacher

## ***Did You Know.....***

That you can find great information at the FCPS Home Page ([www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)) at the side bar on the left by clicking on Special Education?

Parents will find helpful links to an overview of the services that are provided for many disabilities, the eligibility process and criteria, and a helpful glossary of terms and definitions to help parents understand the many commonly used terms in special education.

In addition, you will also find links to the Special Services Home Page and the Special Education Parent Handbook. You will also find a link to the Parent Resource Center (PRC) which contains a list of workshops, the monthly newsletter, a list of camps and other activities, information on the Parent Ombudsman Program, and a list of tutors and speech and language clinicians. You may also reach the PRC at 703-204-3941 TDD 204-3956.

## ***Did You Know....***

That one of the best resources for parents, educators, counselors and anyone who works with children with learning differences or Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is found at [www.ldonline.org](http://www.ldonline.org)?

LD OnLine (703-998-2060) provides articles, guidance, and information and you can also subscribe to their free e-newsletter. Highlights in the current edition include articles about how student with learning differences can learn foreign languages, and actor Henry Winkler describes his own experience with having dyslexia. There are also links to information on study skills, what is means to be Gifted and LD, and helpful links for teachers as well.

LD OnLine also has a link to Reading Rockets (703-998-2001), a reading resource to assist parents, teachers, and other educators in working with struggling readers who require additional support in reading fundamentals, such as decoding and fluency, and reading comprehension.

## ***Did You Know.....***

That a terrific nonprofit organization that provides information and support to parents of children, and adults, affected with attention disorders (ADHD) can be found at [www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)?

The Northern Virginia local chapter can be found at [www.novachadd.org](http://www.novachadd.org). (703-641-5451). This nonprofit organization has monthly programs and provides a free e-newsletter, offers support groups, a lending library to members, and the latest news, research and education events in our area.

## ***Did You Know.....***

That another great Internet resource for parents and teachers can be found at <http://guest.portaportal.com/varegion8>?

This is sort of a one-stop shopping for all grades and subjects, and parents may find it particularly helpful to help prepare students for the upcoming SOL tests, as well as to keep students' skills sharpened over the summer! There are great games and links to other sites, such as math pages and activities.

## ***Did You Know.....***

That your child's case manager may be able to answer many of your questions throughout the year or point you in the right direction if she or he isn't able to help you?

## ***Did You Know.....***

That your student's teacher may have great Internet resource links on his or her Blackboard page to direct you to great review activities for the upcoming SOL tests?

## ***Did You Know.....***

That all students are gifted.....some just open their presents later than others!!!

## ***Did You Know.....***

That many helpful resources are provided by the Autism Society of America (800-328-8476) for parents and those on the autism spectrum?  
The Autism Society of America's website, [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org), lists research and programs, frequently asked questions and tips of the day. It also has a link to Autism Source, an on-line referral database of autism related services and support.

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## Vision and Hearing Screening at Lanier -- Volunteers Needed

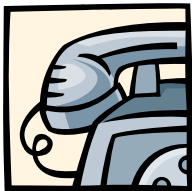
Vision and hearing screening at will be done at Lanier for all 7<sup>th</sup> graders on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. We could use lots of parent volunteers on those days. Please contact Kathy Robinson if you can help. Thank you very much!

Kathy Robinson  
Clinic Room Aide  
Lanier Middle School  
[KFRobinson@fcps.edu](mailto:KFRobinson@fcps.edu)  
703-934-2410

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## Literacy Corner

(Editor's Note: Watch this space for articles on Literacy from the Office of Middle School Instruction)



### Talk, Talk, Talk!

Have you noticed? Teenagers love to talk! Why not capitalize on "what teenagers do best" and encourage talk at home **about books**? Your teen will know you value reading and you will learn a lot about your teen.

Talking about books and magazines with your teen doesn't have to be long, scheduled, or planned. Find those casual moments to share something interesting you've read at work or for fun. Mention a funny comic, an email, news article, magazine, etc. Then ask your teen what he/she has read recently that was found interesting. Showing interest in your teen's reading may be all that's needed to get them talking, but here are some suggestions:

- Find moments to ask your child, "What are you reading?"
- Share interesting things you've just read.
- Get conversation about reading started with, "What is one interesting thing you've read this week?"
- Keep the conversation going with some of these suggestions:
  - ✓ "Why was it interesting?"

- ✓ "Do you think your (brother, sister, me) would like it?"
- ✓ "What was one thing you will remember from the book?"
- ✓ "Did you connect with the main character?"
- ✓ "Is anybody in the book like someone in our family?"
- ✓ "Did you learn about any new place you'd like to visit?"
- ✓ "Have you read about anything you disagree with?"

Get them started talking and you'd better be ready to-

## Listen, Listen, Listen!



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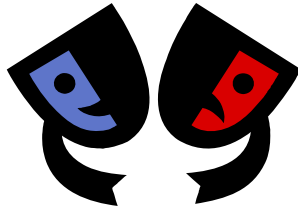
## Social Studies News

By Kathleen Grady, Social Studies Department Chair

On Friday, September 18, 2009, many of Lanier's 7<sup>th</sup> grade students celebrated Constitution Day by attending a "Veterans Inspiring Patriotism" presentation in the auditorium. Students were challenged to understand the freedoms and opportunities we have in the United States. The audience watched a video discussing our responsibility as citizens to protect the Constitution in order to preserve our way of life for future generations. The highlight of the program was hearing Retired US Navy Captain Richard J. Stohr speak about the opportunities he experienced as a result of and in defense of our freedom.

## Theatre Arts Activities

By Mrs. Brenda Scott

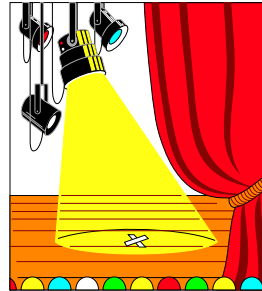


- WLTV (Lanier's News Channel) will be having a little different format this year. Instead of having a daily morning news show, they will be having a weekly show. Speech Arts students will be putting together pertinent stories about their school, local, national and international news. The entire show is put together by students for students. It will air during 5<sup>th</sup> period starting mid-October.
- Theatre students are participating in a Theatre Workshop sponsored by Theatre Arts Directors' Association at Franklin Middle School on October 24th. They will attend workshops on Make-Up, Stage Combat, Lighting, Improvisation, Shakespeare, Puppets, Acting, and Musical Theatre. Lot's of fun will be had by all!
- Our Theatre Sports team will have its first meet on October 30<sup>th</sup> at Twain Middle School. If you like to watch "Who's Line is it Any Way" then you will love seeing these hilariously funny students participate in this activity. Students learn how to think on their feet while having loads of fun. Make a point to come and see this first event of THEATRE SPORTS!!! It is for all ages so make it a family affair. You'll be a fan for life.
- This year's fall show will be a musical. Make plans to come and see Disney's "Alice in Wonderland, Jr." music and lyrics by Sammy Fain and Bob Hilliard, Oliver Wallace and Cy Coban, Allie Wrubel and Ray Gilbert, Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston. Music adapted and arranged and additional music and lyrics by Brian Louiselle; book adapted and additional lyrics by David Simpatico. It is based on the 1951 Disney film "Alice in Wonderland" and the novels "The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll.

Performances will be November 19th – 22nd in the Robert C. Russell Auditorium. Times and prices are forthcoming. Be sure and put these dates on your calendar...you won't want to miss it!!!

## SAVE THE DATE !!!!!!!

### Disney's "Alice in Wonderland, Jr." November 19 - 22

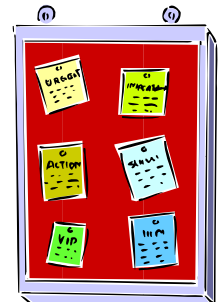


**WHAT:** Alice in Wonderland Jr.  
**WHEN:** November 19 - 22  
**WHERE:** Lanier Auditorium  
**WHY:** Because it will be fun!

(See additional information in Theater Arts article above.)

## FCPS Newswire

(General Items of Interest for Parents from the FCPS Newswire Website)



## H1N1 (Swine Flu) Update

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is partnering with the [Fairfax County Health Department \(FCHD\)](#) to monitor the progression of the 2009 H1N1 Influenza (swine flu). The Fairfax County Health Department follows the guidelines of the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) and provides recommendations to the school system. As you may know, flu can be easily spread from person to person. Fairfax County Public Schools is taking steps to reduce the spread of flu. It is the school system's goal to keep schools open to students and functioning in a normal manner during this flu season. But, FCPS needs your help to do this.

Here are a few things you can do to help:

- **Teach your children good hand hygiene etiquette. Hands should be washed frequently with soap and water, and hand washing should last for at least 20 seconds.**
- **Teach your children to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues.** If a tissue is

unavailable, children should cover their coughs or sneezes using the elbow, arm, or sleeve instead of their hands.

- **Learn the signs and symptoms of the flu.** Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius, or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and a very tired feeling. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- **Keep sick children at home.** Any child who is found to be sick while at school will be sent home. It is also important to keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours after having a fever or showing signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing drugs.
- **Plan now for your children's care if you or your children become ill with the flu and need to stay home.**
- **Stay informed.** FCPS encourages you to visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu.

For more information about flu in our community and what our school system is doing, visit <http://www.fcps.edu/news/swineflu.htm> or call your school.

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## FCPS, Fairfax County Government to Hold FY 2011 Budget Community Dialogues

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) and the Fairfax County government are teaming up again this year to solicit community input to help meet a significant projected budget deficit for FY 2011. Fairfax County is in the midst of a multiyear cyclical downturn requiring that county and school decision-makers continue to make expenditure and revenue adjustments.

The school system's ongoing challenge is to develop a budget with an appropriate level of services that is both sustainable and acceptable to the community. As part of the budget process, FCPS and Fairfax County are hosting a series of budget community dialogues in September, October, and November. Citizens are invited to engage in facilitated small-group discussions to help find solutions to close the FY 2011 budget gap. Registration is required.

Community dialogue meetings will be held as follows:

- **Tuesday, September 29**, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the McLean Community Center.
- **Wednesday, September 30**, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the West Springfield High School cafeteria.
- **Wednesday, October 14**, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Marshall High School cafeteria and the South County Secondary School cafeteria.
- **Saturday, October 24**, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Centreville Regional Library, the Reston Regional Library, and the John Marshall Library.
- **Thursday, October 29**, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the South Lakes High School cafeteria and the Woodson High School cafeteria.
- **Saturday, November 14**, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Kings Park Library, the Sherwood Regional Library, and the George Mason Regional Library.

FCPS and Fairfax County officials will give budget presentations, followed by small-group discussions facilitated by staff members. To register, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget) or call 703-324-2391, TTY 711. Citizens who are unable to attend the community dialogues are welcome to pass along their comments and suggestions by calling 703-324-9400 or completing a budget feedback form at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget).

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## School Bond Referendum to Be on November 3 Ballot

A school bond referendum will be on the general election ballot **Tuesday, November 3, 2009**. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Residents of Fairfax County may vote if they are 18 years of age or older on Election Day and have registered to vote 29 days prior to the election (by October 5, 2009, at 5 p.m.).

The 2009 proposed bond referendum includes \$104.3 million for renovations, including \$101.8 million to renovate Marshall High School; \$2.5 million for renovation planning at Sandburg Middle School; \$65 million for new construction and modulars; and \$26.2 million for infrastructure management, including roof

replacements, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) replacements, athletic improvements, security enhancements, asphalt paving, and improvements required by the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The 2009 bond referendum includes \$50 million for construction of the new middle school in the South County area of Fairfax County and \$40.7 million for capacity enhancements at Crestwood, Cunningham Park, Kings Park, Lynbrook, Spring Hill, Springfield Estates, West Springfield, and Woodley Hills Elementary Schools and Whitman Middle School.

For further information about registering or voting, call 703-222-0776, or go to <http://www.fcps.edu/news/bond09.htm>.

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## FCPS Offers Parent Orientation to New Families

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is offering a parent orientation seminar to families new to the school system. "Getting to Know Fairfax County Public Schools: A Parent Orientation" is taught by community liaisons and is offered in English, Arabic, Korean, and Spanish. This interactive seminar provides information about the school system and the importance of parental involvement in a child's educational achievement, suggestions for how parents can get involved with their children's schools, and a cultural discussion component that helps accelerate a family's acculturation to the United States.

The seminar is presented **on selected dates each month** in each language on a drop-in basis at the following locations:

- **South County Government Center**, 8350 Richmond Highway, in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County, 703-704-6002. Presentation is in **English** from 10 a.m. to noon on the last Wednesday of each month.
- **Devonshire Center**, 2831 Graham Road, Falls Church, 703-208-8017. Presentation is in **English** from 10 a.m. to noon the second Friday of each month; in Korean from 10 a.m. to 12 noon the third Friday of each month; and in Spanish from 10 a.m. to noon the last Friday of each month.
- **Lake Anne-Reston**, 11484 Washington Plaza West, Reston, 703-668-

0583. Presentation is in **Spanish** from 10 a.m. to noon the second Thursday of each month

- For times and locations of presentations in **Arabic**, call 703-277-2637.

Individual school parent liaisons and school parent center coordinators may also request a copy of the presentation to use with families at their schools.

Family Services and Involvement personnel are also available to present to individuals, schools, and community groups.

**Note:** For more information, contact Robin Hamby in the FCPS Department of Communications and Community Outreach, Family and School Partnerships, at 703-277-2640 or [robin.hamby@fcps.edu](mailto:robin.hamby@fcps.edu).

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## Hours Emergency Telephone Number

We know that your number one concern as a parent is your child's safety. We also know that it is frustrating—or even frightening—when you need to call someone for information about your student's whereabouts after school hours and the phones are not being answered. **If your child normally rides a bus home** and you cannot get in touch with him or her, contact the transportation office at **703-446-2000 until 5 p.m.** After 5 p.m., or **if your child normally walks home**, contact the FCPS school security office at **703-764-2400**. In an emergency, the dispatcher can contact a school or a transportation staff member to help you.

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## Fairfax High School Events



(Editor's Note: This space will be used to provide information on various Fairfax High School events that may be of interest to our Future Fairfax High School Rebels.)

## Sports

Interested in attending a sporting event at Fairfax High School? Check out the high school's athletic web site for more information at [www.fairfaxhighsports.org](http://www.fairfaxhighsports.org)

# 2009 - 2010 Lanier PTA Board and Committee Representatives

President: Pam Wagner, [pwagner58@aol.com](mailto:pwagner58@aol.com)  
Vice President: Lisa Mountjoy, [mlmountjoy@aol.com](mailto:mlmountjoy@aol.com)  
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## **Newsletter Available On-Line**

The newsletter will be available on the Lanier Middle School web site at <http://www.fcps.edu/LanierMS/>. If you desire a paper copy mailed to your home, please complete the OPT-IN form attached to this newsletter or email April Breedon, PTA Newsletter Distribution Coordinator, at [higha1975@hotmail.com](mailto:higha1975@hotmail.com) and provide her with your student's name and your name. Please place Newsletter OPT-IN in the subject line.

## **November 2009 Newsletter Article Deadline:**

Newsletter Articles are due by the Friday after the monthly PTA meeting. For the November 2009 newsletter, articles should be submitted by **Friday, October 16, 2009**. Please email them to Cathy Miller at [laniernewsletter@verizon.net](mailto:laniernewsletter@verizon.net).

## **PTA Fundraising Opportunities**



### 1. Giant Food

Register your Giant Bonus Cards. You must redo this every year. This just takes a minute and it is a good fundraiser for Lanier school. Lanier MS code is 01877 and here's the website to enter your info:  
[www.giantfood.com/aplus/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus/aplus).



### 2. Safeway

Safeway contributes up to 3% of your purchases to our school. Register your Safeway Card - go to  
[www.escrip.com/](http://www.escrip.com/) Lanier school ID 148861819.

### 3. Target

### 4. Office Depot

Ask Office Depot to give Lanier credit when you check out.

# Lanier Middle School PTA Newsletter Mailing OPT-IN Form

Lanier Middle School's monthly PTA newsletter is **GOING GREEN** this school year!

The monthly PTA Newsletter will be posted on the Lanier Middle School website. An email from Keep in Touch will let you know when the newsletter is posted to the Lanier Middle School website.

If you desire a paper copy mailed to your home, please let us know with one of the two following methods:

- 1) Complete this form and return it to the school office,

(PLEASE PRINT)

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

- 2) Email April Breeden, PTA Newsletter Distribution Coordinator, at [higha1975@hotmail.com](mailto:higha1975@hotmail.com) and provide her with your student's name and your name. Please place Newsletter OPT-IN in the subject line.

NOTE: The newsletter will be mailed to the address that Lanier Middle School has on record for your student.

Sidney Lanier Middle School  
3801 Jermantown Road  
Fairfax, VA 22030

