

Dear Parents:

**Here's the latest news from Lanier:**

\*PTA Newsletter Available: The October PTA newsletter is posted on Lanier's homepage. The link is:

<http://www.fcps.edu/LanierMS/pta/oct09.pdf>

\*Picture Day Coming Soon: Picture day will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> during your child's PE class.

\*FCPS 24-7Blackboard Update: All teacher Blackboard sites should be up and running. All Lanier teachers are required to update them once a week.

**Reminders:**

\*LMS Car Decals: BRAND NEW! Show your school spirit! Only \$2.00! Send a request and \$2.00 in an envelope marked "Lisa Mountjoy - Decal" to the school office. Decals will be delivered to your student by their 5th period teacher.

\*PTA Fall Fundraiser: Please return all Entertainment Coupon Books and order forms to the front office.

\*The Lanier Library needs volunteers! Some of the tasks include shelving returned books, cataloging/processing new books into the system, cataloging new magazines, removing old magazines, helping students locate books, helping students use the online catalog, etc. Hours are flexible, and any help is greatly appreciated. Ideally, we will have a couple of volunteers helping in the library each day. For more information, contact Kim Thompson at [kimberthompson@earthlink.net](mailto:kimberthompson@earthlink.net) or 703/273-3487. Thanks!

\*After School Programs: Late buses are scheduled for Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 4:30 pm. Students were provided information about the many after-school activities that are available to them. Students may also log onto their Blackboard 24-7 account for more information.

\*Student Orientation Newsletter Available: If you are new to Lanier or just interested in learning more about our many programs and services, please see our newly created student orientation newsletter, *The Early Eagle*, at <http://www.fcps.edu/LanierMS/> (our website).

**In the Community:**

\*The City of Fairfax School Board will hold its monthly business meeting on Monday, October 5, 2009. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the City of Fairfax City Hall, Room 100. The following topics will be discussed:

- Student Representative Report: Jonathan Earley

- Update of Governor's FY 2010 Budget: Ann Monday, Superintendent
- Public Hearing on Five Year Capital Improvement Program

\*Budget Discussions Begin: As mentioned during Back to School Night, the school system's budget forecast for Fiscal Year 2011 is not a pretty picture. It's still a work in progress, but this budget will contain another round of cuts similar to those in Fiscal Year 2010. For the second year, FCPS will participate with Fairfax County government in communicating the serious nature of our budget situation, and participate with them in community dialogues. *It's important for parents to participate*, as these meetings will be the first step in communicating the impact of FY10 budget cuts, and the potential harm of further cuts in FY11. The format will be similar to last year, with participants attending a staff presentation followed by focus groups where they can express their opinion. These community dialogues will take place as follows:

Wednesday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.	Marshall HS, South County SS
Saturday, October 24, 10:00 a.m.	Centreville Library, Reston Library, John Marshall Library
Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.	South Lakes HS, Woodson HS
Saturday, November 14, 10:00 a.m.	Kings Park Library, Sherwood Library, George Mason Regional Library

\*Learn How to Pay for College: Fairfax County Adult and Community Education will be offering a workshop entitled, "Little Known Secrets of Paying for College" from 7-9pm on Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at Woodson HS (9525 Main Street in Fairfax) and from 7-9pm on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at Fairfax HS (3501 Run in Fairfax). Register today by calling 703-658-1201. Tuition is \$39.

\*\*"Roots & Shoots" program: is about making positive change happen—for our communities, for animals and for the environment, developed by Dr. Jane Goodall. Come out and help us collect all types of hardwood seeds/nuts. We will bag and tag them. The Potomac Conservancy will tell you all about how they reuse the nuts and why it is such an important project:

Group/project: Potomac Conservancy – hardwood seed collection

When: Saturday, Oct. 3rd from 10am-12pm

Where: Cub Run RECenter, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, VA 20151

For additional information on the Roots and Shoots program and to register, contact: Debbie Lodato, Volunteer Manager, 703-817-9423, [Deborah.lodato@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Deborah.lodato@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Have a good weekend,

Scott Poole, Ph.D.  
Principal, Lanier Middle School