

Dear Parents:

Here's the latest news from Lanier:

*Interim Grades Sent Home Earlier This Week: Hopefully, you have seen your child's interim grade report by now. Please know that if your child received a D, F, or I (Incomplete) grade, then he or she should be involved with some sort of Lanier intervention aimed at improving their grade. Such interventions include but are not limited to getting extra help during Pride Time, staying after school for assistance, or making up assignments during "Lunch and Learn." Please support our efforts by holding them accountable for incomplete work and communicating with teachers as needed. Thanks.

*Entertainment Coupon Book - The sale has ended. Please ensure that your student has returned either an unsold book or an order. Thank you to all who participated. Your help will further our mission of making Lanier a great place for all our kids.

*Spirit Wear Arrives Next Week - Spirit wear orders should be delivered to students next week. There was a short delay due the unavailability of one of our items. We apologize for the inconvenience.

*Picture Day will be held on October 26th and 27th; pictures will take place during your child's PE class.

Reminders:

*The October PTA newsletter is posted on Lanier's homepage. The link is:
<http://www.fcps.edu/LanierMS/pta/oct09.pdf>

*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.

*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 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:

*Budget Discussions Begin: The following is a message from Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko: Reading the tea leaves regarding the FY11 budget, we're going to have to be assertive to ensure that the community is aware of the impact of another year with no increase. Dr. Dale and Leadership Team continue to work on the Superintendent's budget for FY11, and it's not a pretty picture. It's still a work in progress, but this budget will contain another round of cuts similar to those in FY10. 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 and staff to participate*, as these meetings will be the first step in communicating the impact of FY10 budget cuts, and potential harm of further cuts in FY11. Format will be similar to last year, with participants attending a staff presentation followed by focus groups where they can express their opinion.

Wednesday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 24, 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 14, 10:00 a.m.

Marshall HS, South County SS

Centerville Library, Reston Library, John Marshall Library

South Lakes HS, Woodson HS

Kings Park Library, Sherwood Library, George Mason Regional Library

*The Fairfax High School Theatre department is offering a one day drama camp for grades 1-8 on the upcoming teacher workday, Tuesday, November 3rd from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The cost is \$40. All proceeds support the FHS theatre students. Please see www.fxplayers.org for full details and a registration form.

*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 4th and 11th at Woodson HS (9525 Main Street in Fairfax) and from 7-9pm on Wednesday, December 2nd and 9th at Fairfax HS (3501 Run in Fairfax). Register today by calling 703-658-1201. Tuition is \$39.

Have a good weekend,

Scott Poole, Ph.D.

Principal, Lanier Middle School