



LASA High School is pleased to bring you *Lots of LASA*, a weekly electronic newsletter designed to keep you updated with important news, dates and links. To unsubscribe please send an email to unsubscribe-pflasa@yahoo.com.

Sunday, November 30th

This week's schedule: C A B A (late start) B

VISITORS: Be sure to bring your ID with you and sign-in to get a visitors pass.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Reminders & News from Mr. Sanchez & upcoming events
- Counselors Corner – College Visits
- Congratulations – LBJ Swim Team & LASA Sci O
- PFLASA NEWS – **Fri, Dec. 5, PFLASA Meeting**, 8:00 a.m. Rm 250
 - Thanks for Field Day
 - Spring Bus Stop Changes
 - Winterfest
 - Senior Deadline!
 - UT –“Breakfast Bytes”
 - Broomball

To LASA Families:

I want to send a million thanks to everybody who helped with LASA's 1st annual Field Day. We had an incredible amount of fun, both students and faculty, and look forward to holding it again next year. Special thanks go to Melanie Meyer for running it, typing up the rules and organizing the 1000 or so people to make it work, to PFLASA and the parent volunteers and donors who gave time, cash, jello, or other things in-kind, to AISD Facilities for letting us use the Noack Fields, to Pizza Patron for being the only pizza place that was willing to undertake the preparation of 230 pizzas by 11:30 am and its very low price, to Suzanne Torres, LBJ/LASA's athletic trainer, for coming to assist if there had been any injuries, to Anderson High School and its principal Donna Houser for the lending of PE equipment and one athletic trainer, to the students who agreed to be “snitches” for the quidditch tournament, who graciously agreed to do their Fitnessgram another time, and to Marcella Duran, LASA's PE teacher, for Fitnessgram testing the rest of the school during the Field Day activities.

Uniform GPA system - If you have a rising 9th grader next year, please research the Uniform GPA system currently being discussed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The goal of this system is arrive at a better way for colleges in the state of Texas to compare students across school districts based on their grade point average. At this time, this law will not affect students currently enrolled in grades 9 through 12. Thank you to Mr. Santucci for doing this initial research for us.

The first link is the THECB summary of hearings, the second is HB3851 making it law, the third link is the Legislative history of the bill, the last is some more Google sites of research.

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1617.PDF>

<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/HB03851F.HTM>

<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/billlookup/Actions.aspx?LegSess=80R&Bill=HB3851>

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=Texas+HB+3851&btnG=Search>

LASA will keep you up to date as we find out more information about this new state regulation. If you are extremely interested in this topic, please join us at the meeting listed on Tuesday.

Tryouts for the Jaguar First Ladies team will be on Friday, December 5th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. A tryout clinic will be held everyday from December 1 to December 5 from 3:45 to 5:00 pm. Please see Ms. Hughes in the Dance Room.

Monday 12/1:

Forum: Students pick the charity that will be the recipient of the Faculty “Kiss the Pig” fundraiser. Students will also share any school issues they would like addressed by their Forum Senate Representative due to the upcoming meeting on Tuesday, December 2. Next Monday during Forum, the teacher will kiss the pig in front of the school in the gymnasium. Also during that Forum, the Forum classes and individuals who won the Field Day activities will be presented their trophies.

Tuesday 12/2:

Forum Delegate meeting at lunch in Room 209, 11:25 am.
State Uniform GPA meeting with Christy Rome in Library, 3:45 pm. Faculty students, and parents are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 12/3:

Jaguar Wrestling Match vs. Lanier in Gym, 6:00 pm
French Winterfest in Cafeteria, 6:00 pm

Thursday 12/4:

Late Start, A Day

Friday 12/5:

PFLASA Meeting in Room 250, 8:00 am
First Ladies Tryouts, 4:00 pm;
Orchestra Concert, First Presbyterian Church, 7:00 pm

Saturday 12/6:

AISD Magnet Fair in LBJ Gym, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
CANCELLED: LBJ/LASA Choir’s Madrigal Dinner in cafeteria, 7:00 pm

Upcoming:

December 8, Board Recognition for Golden Performance Awards, 7:00 pm, Channel 22
December 9, Choir Winter Concert, Haynes PAC, 7:00 pm
December 12, Band Winter Concert, Haynes PAC, 7:30 pm
December 15: 2nd period and 4th period final and will attend 6th and 8th period
December 16: 1st period and 3rd period final; Early Release, 12:10 pm
December 17: 5th period and 7th period final; Early Release, 12:10 pm
December 18: 6th period and 8th period final; Early Release, 12:10 pm

College Rep Visits

Juniors and seniors interested in attending a session must sign up in advance in the LASA office.

December Visits

2 nd – Tuesday	Kettering University – 10:00 a.m.
3 rd – Wednesday	St. John’s College – 10:00 a.m.
	Texas A&M University – Commerce – Time TBD
4 th – Thursday	Trinity University – 11:25 a.m.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Swimming & Diving team placed 2nd overall at a meet in Burnet the weekend of Nov. 22nd, competing against 25 other teams. The girls 400 Freestyle Relay of Lara Slesnick (JR), Kylie Ternes (JR), Alicia Zhang (SR) and Erin Lowe (JR) and our top boys 50 sprinter McCrae Kempf (Jr.) both broke pool records during the meet while Ryan Sittig (Sr.) broke the school record in the 100 Backstroke.

Overall we had 25% of the event champions and several other top three finishes dominating our Regional and District rivals. Congratulations to the Jaguars and Coaches Willing and Christian!

Two of the LASA Science Olympiad teams competed at the CyFalls Invitational November 22/23 in Houston and placed 1st and 3rd overall! There were 30 high school teams from around Texas there, including some of our historical top competitors. The students competed with a unique balance of focus and fun that is impressive. It is a great honor and experience to work with these students. Please join me in congratulating these students.

Medalist include:

1st place Astronomy--Lukas Koube and Arami Rosales
2nd place Astronomy--Cailynn Ponciroli and Daniel Wang
3rd place Cell Biology--Emily Liljestrand and Ran Liu
2nd place Chemistry Lab--Andrew Vanderburg and Areen Piaktong
1st place Disease Detective--Victoria Ciu and Angela Liu
3rd place Disease Detective--Marcos Villareal and Daniel Wang
2nd place Dynamic Planet--Frasier Liljestrand and Ryan Doubrava
2nd place Ecology--Bunker Hillis and Zane Rankin
3rd place Ecology--Andrew Vanderburg and Ryan Doubrava
1st place Egg-o-naut--Bunker Hillis and Jason Pan
1st place Electric Vehicle--Victoria Ciu and Mark Sands
2nd place Electric Vehicle--Ryan Doubrava and Andrew Vanderburg
1st place Elevated Bridge--Evelyn Powell and Eliza McDonald
1st place Environmental Chemistry--Marcos Villareal and Cailynn Ponciroli
3rd place Forensics--Jason Pan and Chloe Ling
1st place Fossils--Ryan Doubrava and Rose Kent-McGlew
1st place Health Science--Victoria Ciu and Erika Park
2nd place Herpetology--Jeffrey Holzgrafe and Mark Sands
1st place Its About Time--Jeffrey Holzgrafe and Chloe Ling
3rd place Its About Time--Evelyn Powell and Megumi Takeda
1st place Junkyard Challenge--Zane Rankin and Bunker Hillis
3rd place Junkyard Challenge--Areen Piaktong and Cailynn Ponciroli
1st place Physics Lab--Andrew Vanderburg and Eliza McDonald
2nd place Technical Problem Solving--Ivy Ngyuen and Megumi Takeda
1st place Trajectory--Marcos Villareal and Areen Piaktong (and Travis Owen)
2nd place Adventures in Agriculture--Marcos Villareal and Ryan Doubrava

These students have worked really hard, some spending more than 15 hours a week on preparing for their events. In addition, kudos go to the entire faculty of LASA. These students are incredibly well prepared to think flexibly at high levels, manage their time under stress, and integrate their knowledge in coherent ways due in large part to the constant high quality interactions they have with the teaching staff of LASA. Thanks to everyone for all of their support, and I look forward to watching the LASA SciO teams compete in less than 2 weeks in Dallas!

PFLASA NEWS

PFLASA would like to thank Principal Rene Sanchez and Associate Principal Melanie Meyer for dreaming up "Field Day" and pulling out all stops to make the day a success and to LASA faculty, parents and students for being such great sports all day long. Special thanks to Pizza Patron whose staff rose early on November 25th to make 230 pizzas, to LASA parent Sandy Smith for making 500 + jello jigglers, to Lee Elementary for loaning a tug-o-war rope, and to AISD for making Noack Field available for the event.

WEB UPDATES!

Check out SPRING BUS STOP CHANGES at: <http://www.lasaonline.org/transportation.html>

Wednesday, December 3rd, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Celebrate Winterfest - the annual celebration hosted by LASA's French, Japanese, Spanish and German students, held in the cafeteria. Students will have visual displays along with delicious food samplings from each country they are representing. Everyone is welcome! If you have questions, please contact French teacher, Ms. Brockington at liliane.brockington@austinisd.org

Friday, December 5, - is the **absolute deadline for seniors** to turn in college information materials (folders) and transcript requests to the College Advisor, Counselors, and Registrar for deadlines from January 1, 2009, to January 15, 2009. Seniors, please make sure that you do not miss this deadline!

Saturday, December 6 Breakfast Bytes - A Program from the Department of Computer Sciences at UT is offered for middle and high school students. Each month, a professor will give a lecture, followed by interactive activities and breakfast. December's lecture will be held on Saturday, December 6th and is entitled, "Computers with Vision." Prof. Kristen Grauman will use LEGO Mindstorms to teach students about computer vision and machine learning. This will be held in the ACES building, room 2.302, the Avaya Auditorium. For more information, please visit <http://outreach.cs.utexas.edu>

Saturday, December 13th - The Annual Foreign Language "Broom Ball" Tournament @ Northcross Mall from 10:15 p.m. until 12:15 a.m. \$15 per student - bring your \$ to Mr. Browne in P8A. Questions? contact Mr. Browne at bbrowne@austinisd.org

Get Connected

- www.LasaOnline.org is the parent run website that has Lots of LASA archived, a list of teacher's e-mails and phone numbers in the directory (top right) and much, much more!
- **PTSA Jaguar Tracks E-newsletter** Send a blank email to PTSA-News-subscribe@lbjptsa.org
- **PFLASA Yahoo Group (Parents and Friends of LASA)** Send a blank email to pflasa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. (Note: This is an Announce-only list)
- **Class of 2009 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to lbjlasa2009-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
- **Class of 2010 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to lbjlasa2010-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
- **Class of 2011 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to lbjlasa2011-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
- **Class of 2012 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to lbjlasa2012-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact PFLASA co-chairs Ann Graham at annsgraham@gmail.com or Sharon Dunn at sadunn15@gmail.com

If you have suggestions for this publication, please contact Karen Foree at editorLOL@grandecom.net
Please have items in by Thursday afternoon if you want something listed that week.