



Lamar High School

AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE WORLD SCHOOL

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For the week of November 12, 2018

Principal's Corner



In last week's Principal's Corner I offered an overview of the curriculum work we are doing. This guides us in "what" we will teach. This week I would like to focus on the instructional approaches we are using, or the "how." Several years ago the Lamar faculty started shifting their instructional practices. As an IB World school we incorporated strategies such as flipped instruction, Kagan Cooperative Strategies, and Project-based Learning (PBL) into our instruction, in order to ensure all students are maximizing their opportunities to learn while in the classroom. Here is a look at the instructional practices we are using, the ways we continue to support teachers in improving their practice, and how these instructional practices are complemented by the new facility to enhance learning.

International Baccalaureate (MYP, CP and DP)

What is it? The IB Middle Years Programme, the IB Career-related Programme and the IB Diploma Programme provide an instructional framework that focuses on the development of characteristics, our learner profile, providing students with the opportunity to learn through inquiry with a focus on the connectedness between disciplines.

How are teachers supported to continuously grow in this instructional approach? Each year Lamar teachers attend IB training specific to their discipline that focuses on instructional practices that are in line with the IB philosophy. Through our continued collaboration with Texas IB Schools and other HISD IB schools, we will continue to offer training every summer.

How is this instructional strategy complemented by the new facility? In our new building, the flexible learning spaces will allow our interdisciplinary

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mon. Nov. 12th-A-Day
- Make-up Day for Pictures
- FAFSA Roadshow/HISD (Library/E103) @ 1 - 4pm
- Girls 9th Basketball vs Westside (Lamar) @ 5:30 pm
- Girls JV Basketball vs Westside (Lamar) @ 7 pm
- Girls Varsity Basketball vs Westside (Delmar) @ 7 pm
- Tues. Nov. 13th-B-Day
- Student Flu Shots (Clinic) 11:20 am - finished
- Boys Freshmen Basketball vs Clearlake (Clearlake) @ 4:30 pm
- PTO Meeting (Café) @ 5:30 pm - 6 pm
- Course Selection explained for current 10th/rising 11th (Café) @ 6 pm
- Boys JV Basketball vs Clearlake (Clearlake) @ 6 pm
- JV Swim vs St. John (Lamar) @ 6 pm
- Piano Show 1 (Performance Hall) @ 6 pm
- Boys Varsity Basketball vs Clearlake (Clearlake) @ 7:30 pm
- Piano Show 2 (Performance Hall) @ 7:30 pm

neighborhood teams to fully embrace the IB philosophy. Teachers will be working together to seamlessly offer opportunities for inquiry-based, hands-on learning through an interdisciplinary approach. In other words, students will have opportunities to develop rich, engaging questions about the world, seek to understand the complexity of the problem from a variety of perspectives and then work to solve that problem.

Flipped Learning

What is it? Flipped Learning is an instructional design approach that puts an emphasis on having the teacher available as students begin to practice and gain expertise on curriculum. Teachers utilize technology and online tools to develop short lessons to frontload the basic knowledge students need to make sense of new material. Then, as with any good apprenticeship, the teacher is in class available to facilitate and offer support as the student begins to gain expertise on the material.

How are teachers supported to continuously grow in this instructional approach? This instructional approach was launched a few years ago and had several early adopters that have helped drive the development of strong flipped lessons in each content area. Teachers are continuing to receive professional development to improve the quality and appeal of the lessons. This year we are working with HISD Educational Technology department to offer training each month on a new tool for engaging students in the flipped lesson.

How is this instructional strategy complemented by the new facility? Flipped lesson design allows students to use the time in class to engage in exploration and practice with new content, while teachers are readily available to guide them in their learning. Teachers will prepare opportunities for students to interact with the new content and get help as they apply the new skill.

Kagan Cooperative Strategies

What is it? Kagan Cooperative Strategies provide a framework for working with others. When students work together and have a positive experience they boost academic understanding as well as emotional intelligence, or in the world of IB, they advance themselves in developing the characteristics of the learner profile. Kagan provides structures and routines for working in pairs, small groups or even larger groups.

How are teachers supported to continuously grow in this instructional approach? Lamar implemented Kagan structures several years ago and continues to provide training as new teachers join the Lamar faculty. New teachers receive continuous support through our new teacher cohort and through our Appraisal and Development system.

How is this instructional strategy complemented by the new facility? Cooperative learning requires flexibility in the learning environment. The new facility is designed to offer a variety of flexible learning spaces, allowing teachers to choose the most effective cooperative routine, and allowing students to work in a location that fits their own learning goals.

Project-based Learning (PBL)

- Wed. Nov 14th-A-Day
- Piano Show 3 (Performance Hall)
@ 6 pm
- Piano Show 4 (Performance Hall)
@ 7:30 pm
- Thurs. Nov. 15th- B-Day
- Magnet Tour (Library) @ 1 pm
- Girls 9th/JV Basketball vs
Brazosport Invitational
Tournament (TBA) TBA
- Boys Varsity Basketball
McDonald's Invitational (TBA)
TBA
- Boys Freshmen Basketball Allief
Tournament (TBA) TBA
- Course Selection explained for
current 10th/rising 11th (Café)
@ 6 pm
- Fri. Nov. 16th- A-Day
- Student Report Cards
- Varsity Swim/ Coastal Bend
TISCA (Corpus Christi) @ 9:30 am
- Girls 9th/JV Basketball vs
Brazosport Invitational
Tournament (TBA) TBA
- Boys Varsity Basketball
McDonald's Invitational (TBA)
TBA
- Boys Freshmen Basketball Allief
- Varsity Football Playoff vs CyFair
(Delmar) @ 7
- Sat. Nov. 17th
- Varsity Swim/ Coastal Bend
TISCA (Corpus Christi) @ 9:30 am
- Wrestling vs Northside
Invitational (NSH) @ 9 am
- Girls 9th/JV Basketball vs
Brazosport Invitational
Tournament (TBA) TBA
- Boys Varsity Basketball
McDonald's Invitational (TBA)
TBA
- Boys Freshmen Basketball Allief
Tournament (TBA) TBA
- Mon. Nov. 19th
- Thanksgiving Holiday
- Freshmen Girls Basketball vs
Northbrook (Northbrook)@4 pm
- Girls JV Basketball vs Northbrook
(Northbrook) @ 5:30 pm

What is it? While students at Lamar have long been engaging in projects, the project-based approach is an instructional approach that allows us to shift from using projects simply to measure understanding at the end of a unit of study, to creating opportunities for students to learn through the doing process. It relies on students to use inquiry and design theory to work together to explore and solve open-ended, real-world problems. You may want to watch this short two-minute video from Edutopia that explores the difference between projects and project-based learning at [pic.twitter.com/6qemsuCa0i](https://www.edutopia.org/project-based-learning).

How are teachers supported to continuously grow in this instructional approach? Teachers will be receiving professional development throughout the spring semester and summer to develop a foundational understanding of the work, and then will be engaging with experts in the field throughout the implementation of PBL.

How is this instructional strategy complemented by the new facility? Project-based learning requires flexibility with instructional time and the physical learning environment. Neighborhood assignments allow teachers to work together to design instruction and instructional time that allows for that flexibility. Additionally, each neighborhood has a science/maker lab that allows students to get elbow-deep in their work, with all the tools to help them turn a conceptual idea into reality.

What to Do When your Student Struggles

IB curriculum is rigorous. Even strong students can struggle. Join advisors to learn how to monitor your student's grades and how to access resources for academic support, Thursday, November 8th, @ 6 pm in Lamar's Cafeteria.

FAFSA Roadshow

Seniors and their parents: Join representatives from HISD and college advisors from College Corner to learn about - and complete - the financial aid documents required to be eligible to receive college financial aid and scholarships. Come and join us on Monday, November 12th, from 1 pm – 4 pm in the Library and E103.

Course Selection explained for current 10th/R11th graders

Parents of current 10th graders/Rising 11th graders: Join the Academic Advisors to hear what we are discussing with your students in their history classes about 11th grade course selection. We will begin promptly at 6 pm on Tuesday, November 13th and Thursday, November 15th, with a PowerPoint presentation. Then stay afterwards, so we can answer questions about Junior year course selection.

- Girls Varsity Basketball vs Northbrook (Northbrook) @ 7 pm
- [Tues. Nov. 20th](#)
- [Thanksgiving Holiday](#)
- Freshmen Boys Basketball vs Strake Jesuit (Lamar) Jesuit @ 9 am
- JV Basketball vs Strake (Lamar) @ 10:30 am
- Varsity Boys Basketball vs Strake Jesuit (Lamar) @ 12 noon
- [Wed. Nov 21st](#)
- [Thanksgiving Holiday](#)
- [Thurs. Nov. 22nd](#)
- [Thanksgiving Day](#)
- [Fri. Nov. 23rd](#)
- [Thanksgiving Holiday](#)
- Varsity Boys Basketball vs Texas Jamboree (Westbury)/ (Episcopal HS) @ 7 pm
- [Sat. Nov. 24th](#)
- No Events Scheduled

Senior Panoramic Pictures

What: Class of 2019 Senior Panoramic Picture

When: Wednesday, November 28th

Time: 9:00 am

Location: In front of school

Who: Seniors 2019

Price Packages: \$25.00 – Panoramic

\$35.00 – Large Laminated Panoramic & one
Medium Panoramic

\$45.00 – (3 Picture Package) Large Laminated Panoramic, w/One
Medium

Panoramic & One Medium '19 Formation (Best Deal!)

Please be sure to bring payment the VERY NEXT DAY to purchase and receive your photographs:

Thursday, November 29th and Friday, November 30th during lunch.

2019 Senior Breakfast/Class Panoramic Picture

The class picture for the Senior Class of 2019 and Senior Breakfast is scheduled for Wednesday morning of November 28th. Please make sure your seniors come dressed in their school uniforms. Volunteers are needed to assist with set up, senior class t-shirt hand out, handing out breakfast food, and clean up. This should last from about 7:30 am - 10:30 am. The more volunteers we have, the faster it will go. If you cannot be there in person, monetary donations to cover the senior breakfast items are greatly appreciated too. Please click on this link to donate for the Class of 2019 breakfast:

<https://www.mkt.com/lamar-high-school-pto-class-of-2019>

We need approximately 30 volunteers to work at the breakfast and monetary donations to cover food costs. Any additional funds left over will go towards the Safe After Prom Party in the Spring. Please sign up to volunteer or donate to help make this senior class event a success!

Lamar JROTC

The Lamar High School JROTC program first opened its doors in 1937 under the 7th Battalion with the help of LT John T. McDaniel, Lamar's first Senior Army Instructor.

JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) is a program that teaches leadership and helps motivate young people to be better citizens. JROTC's mission is to support the educational goals of Lamar High School by being the most outstanding unit in the city. In 1946, General Dwight D. Eisenhower described the Lamar JROTC program as "Best of the Best". From this day Lamar's JROTC has strived to uphold this title and perform at the best of their abilities. Lamar's JROTC takes into consideration not only their academics and leadership but students themselves.

Nov. 8th: American Legion Veterans Day Event at Michael DeBakey VA Hospital

Nov. 12th Veterans Day Ceremony at West University Elementary School

Nov. 15th HISD Special Olympics Field Day at Butler Stadium

Lamar Night in the Village

Come out and enjoy some good food and early holiday shopping to support Lamar High School Class of 2021, Wednesday, December 5th.

Kendra Scott
2411 Times Blvd #201
6-8 pm 20% donation

Hopdoddy
5510 Morningside Dr. #100
All day 20% Donation

All proceeds will benefit the Lamar High School Class of 2021 Safe After Prom Party.
Don't forget to mention Lamar High School during check out.
Spread the word and bring all your friends.
Thanks for your support!

Student Flu Shots

HISD has partnered with Healthy Schools to provide all students Free Flu Shots this year. Lamar students will be receiving the Flu Shots on November 13th, 2018, from 11:20 am until finished. You can sign your child up for a no-cost flu shot online at https://secure.caredox.com/c/signup/healthyschools?utm_content=hsribbon or fill out the consent form that was sent home with each student and return it to the nurses office. Didn't get a consent form? Contact the school nurse, Ms. Makin. Remember Flu Shots Save Lives!

Flu shots for students will be given on Tuesday, November 13th.

Senior Deadlines

Dear seniors and parents:

Not all colleges require a counselor recommendation letter/written evaluation as part of the application for admission.

If yours does, be aware of your submission deadline.

Remember, your advisors require a **minimum of 10 school days to write your recommendation letter** - and sometimes more - depending on how many of you wait until the last minute to turn in your RLS, and our other duties that layer in on top of writing recommendation letters. **Holidays and weekends do not count.** This means:

If you have a deadline of Dec. 1, you must email your completed RLS to your advisor no later than Nov. 12;

If you have a deadline of Dec. 15, you must email your completed RLS to your advisor no later than Dec. 3; and

If you have a deadline of Jan. 1 or Jan. 15, you must email your completed RLS to your advisor no later than Dec. 7.

Please note: it is incumbent on you to complete the RLS so that your advisor is able to craft a personal recommendation letter based solely on the RLS. If you do not take the time to put in writing - on the RLS - those things that make you a distinct and desirable candidate, your advisor cannot craft an impressive recommendation letter that will distinguish you from your peers.

Any questions, ask in College Corner.

Thank you for your attention to these deadlines.

Best of luck to you in your college applications.

Your Academic Advisors

Junior to Do List for Senior Applications

Hello juniors & their parents:

In addition to making excellent grades in all courses junior year, students should be doing the following to prepare for college applications **which will be completed in the 1st semester of senior year:**

Fall Junior Year

- Junior year grades and attendance MUST be strong!
- Obtain positions of leadership in school and community activities.
- Check out "What's New" on NAVIANCE. See which schools are visiting Lamar and attend.

Spring Junior Year

- Begin free test prep at KHAN Academy, www.khanacademy.org
- Take the School Day SAT on April 23rd.
- Register for the SAT, www.collegeboard.org and/or the ACT www.actstudent.org.
- Visit your top college choices during Spring Break.
- Review college applications at www.applytexas.org and/or www.commonapplication.org
- Pay attention when advisors visit your TOK and history classrooms in February to present a PowerPoint and answer questions re How to Apply to College.
- Invite your parents to the Advisors' Parent Education Series to hear this same information.

- Clean up your transcript. Apply for Credit Appeal to clear any NGs – and do not earn any more.

Summer Junior Year

- Do at least two of the following: Volunteer 100 hours or more, work, or attend a summer program
- Visit two colleges
- Begin writing your college application essays
- Finalize your college list

1st week of school Senior Year

- Not all colleges require a letter of recommendation from your counselor/advisor. If yours do, in your NAVIANCE account, go to "Documents," scroll to Recommendation Letter Survey (RLS), complete it, and email it to your advisor to be placed in line for a counselor/advisor letter of recommendation/written evaluation. Advisor require a minimum 10 school day turnaround exclusive of weekends and holidays. Beware your submission deadlines!
- Go – in person – to visit your teachers from whom you will request a recommendation letter – before you request their letter in NAVIANCE.
- Complete the Common Application, LINK your Colleges, and WAIVE your FERPA.

HISD Parent University

When: November 15, 2018

Theme: Pathways and Programs

Time: 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Locations: Milby High School

Pin Oak Middle School

Washington High School

Wisdom High School

Yates High School

Parents can attend any location!

Lamar Texan Marching Band

Good luck to our Lamar Texan Marching Band as they travel to Dallas this weekend to compete in the national competition!

#Lamarproud



[Lamar High School](#)

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