

## ****Principal's Corner****



**Behind the Scenes**

Considering our current circumstances, I imagine everyone has their hands full.  I want to share with you some of the things we are working on that you may be interested in knowing about.

**Construction.**  We are in the final stretch.  We have a few items on our punch list that are being identified and corrected, but the original Westheimer campus project is complete.  We are awaiting the installation of safety netting around baseball and softball to ensure the adjacent fields can be used without concern for stray balls.  This was added when the potential safety issue was identified late in the project and has been added as a separate project.  We expect that to be installed right around the start of the baseball/softball seasons.  We are working with the Alumni Association, who recently pledged to donate scoreboards, seating and lighting for the athletic fields to allow for extended usage hours after dark.  And then the final piece of the project is the construction of a greenhouse for our Horticulture program on campus and a new barn for our Animal Science program at the current barn site.  The construction team has started utility and dirt work and are projected to finish this project in the coming months.

With any new facility, we need to name areas of the campus to make it easier to give directions.  A Naming Committee was recently established following Board Policy to review some of the proposals made for naming.  Those recommendations are being reviewed by HISD administration and will be submitted to the HISD Board of Trustees for approval.  We have tried to honor the culture and history of the school community, for example, the naming recommendation for our outdoor patio is Red Table Patio.  This area will receive signage that honors the original PTO donation for the tables and the social importance of the area over time.  Another example is the naming proposal for our synthetic turf field, to be named Coaches’ Field to honor the important role coaches play in the lives of Lamar students.  The Alumni Association will be adding plaques that tell the history of our coaching staff in our various athletic programs.  We will invite our Alumni to identify coaches that made an impact on their lives.

There are several areas of the campus that still need proposals for naming.  Areas of a school may be named after a person, community, location or function.  If you would like to submit a naming recommendation, please forward that to me at [rgraves1@houstonisd.org](mailto:rgraves1@houstonisd.org) for consideration in the next Naming Committee Meeting.  I would like to thank our committee members for their time and dedication to this work.

**Courses for 2021-2022.** We are currently working on making changes to our course offerings, eliminating courses that don’t work for us and adding things that better align with our IB Programmes.  We will announce changes to our course offerings before the end of January.  Watch the newsletter for more information.

**Student Led Conferences.**  In the coming weeks, you will begin receiving information about Student Led Conferences.  This was an addition to our program last year. I received incredible feedback from parents, students, teachers and administrators about how valuable the time was.  Students will start the meeting with a reflection and will share pieces of work from their portfolio.  This is also the time when Academic Deans can assist students and parents in developing or fine tuning the academic pathway for college or career by developing a course schedule that matches the student’s goals.  These are online meetings to ensure the health and safety of all involved.  Watch for more information!

**Recovering From a Slow Start in the Fall Semester**

This year has presented many challenges for students, some of which we anticipated and tried to work around, and others we just couldn’t see coming. It is important that our students know there are still opportunities to correct their missteps from this first semester.

**Low grades?**  A student who fails one semester of a course may be eligible for receiving a passing grade for the year when the two semesters added together equal 139 points.  For instance, if a student makes a 60 as the first semester average, then a 79 or better in the second semester will allow us to award credit for both semesters.  Students who did not pass the first semester should calculate the grade needed for the second semester and use it to set a goal.  Remember, every point counts, so finish this semester strong!

139 total points – 1st semester average = grade needed in 2nd semester

**Poor attendance?** A student who has missed more than 4 class periods in any course, but less than 11 class periods in that course, may be able to take advantage of our credit appeals process to make up time for the course.  If the student has a passing grade, and completes credit appeal, the course credit may be reinstated.

**2nd Semester Final Exam Exemptions**

We will be offering exemptions for spring semester final exams.  We will be offering a short online meeting on Tuesday, January 26th from 1:00-1:30 p.m. to share the guidelines for qualifying for exemptions.  A link for the meeting will be available on social media and the Lamar website the day before the meeting.

**IB Diploma Candidate Meeting for Seniors**

On Wednesday, January 20th, we will host a meeting for seniors to discuss requirements for receiving the IB Diploma.  The meeting will take place in Teams from 12:15-12:45.  A link will be provided on social media and the Lamar website the day before the meeting.  This meeting is designed to answer the most common questions and show students how they are scored to earn the IB Diploma.  This meeting was very helpful last year and helped us increase our number of recipients 270%.  I am so proud of Class of 2020, but know that this Class of 2021 has the potential to earn even more IB Diplomas and go to college with 24 hours of college credit already in the bank!

We will offer a similar meeting for Juniors in February.

## ****Highlighted Events****

* **Fri. Jan. 15th- UIL Winter Show (Lamar) 6:30 pm**
* **Fri. Jan. 15th- LDT Winter Spectacular (Performance Hall) 7 pm**
* **Sat. Jan 16th- UIL Winter Show (Lamar) 7 pm**
* **Mon. Jan. 18th- MLK Holiday**
* **Tues. Jan. 19th - Fri. Jan. 22nd- Dead Week**
* **Wed. Jan. 20th- ASVAB Test**
* **Thurs. Jan. 21st- Abel Design Group Partnership Workshop (Online/Ms. Harper) 11:45 am - 12:15 pm**
* **Mon. Jan. 25th - Thurs. Jan 28th- FINAL EXAMS**
* **Fri. Jan. 29th- Teacher Prep Day (NO STUDENTS)**

## ****A Message from HISD Interim Superintendent****

Dear HISD Parent:

As we approach the fourth six weeks of the 2020-2021 school year, HISD families have the option starting today to revise their selection for either in-person or virtual instruction for students. The first day of the fourth six weeks is February 1.

The selection process remains the same. Parents will have **from Monday, January 11, through Monday, January 18**, to make their selection through the HISD Connect Parent Portal “Forms” section. If parents would like to keep their selection as-is, no action is needed. The current selected mode of instruction will carry over to the fourth six-weeks grading period.

If a change is needed, parents will be able to log in to the HISD Connect Parent Portal and make their new selection. Parents also can contact their child’s school to change their selection. Please utilize our helpful step-by-step videos on [**completing forms**](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/739A7Gx1o0A0yQR4ndMlEA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0Q8aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cueW91dHViZS5jb20vd2F0Y2g_dj0yMnU5QVMwT2liQSZmZWF0dXJlPXlvdXR1LmJlVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~) or [**getting started in the Parent Portal.**](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/_iwDaB3jp7ZglZqF7CQCRw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0Q8aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cueW91dHViZS5jb20vd2F0Y2g_dj15QkRVREVFdHNPOCZmZWF0dXJlPXlvdXR1LmJlVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~)

This process is continuing to ensure campuses can begin planning for physical space, staffing, and scheduling. Once a selection is made, the choice is valid for the remainder of the school year. There will be additional opportunities to change a selection throughout the year, if needed.

Thank you for your continued support and attention to this process. For questions about making your selections, please contact your campus.

## ****Mid Term Exams Bell Schedule****

Monday, January 25, 2021:           Period 2- (8:30 - 10:35 am) (ADA=10:30)

                                                           Period 1- (10:40 am - 12:40 pm)

                                                           Lunch 12:40 - 12:50 pm

Tuesday, January 26, 2021:           Period 6- (8:30 - 10:35 am) (ADA=10:30)

                                                           Period 5- (10:40 am - 12:40 pm)

                                                          Lunch 12:40 - 12:50 pm

Wednesday, January 27, 2021:    Period 3- (8:30 - 10:35 am) (ADA=10:30)

                                                          Period 4- (10:40 am - 12:40 pm)

                                                          Lunch 12:40 - 12:50 pm

Thursday, January 28, 2021:        Period 7- (8:30 - 10:35 am) (ADA=10:30)

                                                          Period 8- (10:40 am - 12:40 pm)

                                                          Lunch 12:40 - 12:50 pm

## ****1-800-STUCO****

Hey Texans! Only two more weeks until semester one is over! Keep up all the good work and finish strong! Make sure you are continuing to be safe and responsible. Be sure to follow us on Instagram (@lamarstudentcouncil) and Twitter (@lamarstucoo). Feel free to email us any comments, questions, or concerns to [lamarstudentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:lamarstudentcouncil@gmail.com). Go Texans!

## APEX Course Deadline

The deadline to finish APEX U.S. GOVT is Friday, January 22, 2021.  That give students just under two weeks to complete the course.  If you do not finish the course so that it can be credited before the end of the semester, you will likely be placed in a face-to-face section for the spring semester and will lose access to any off campus periods.

Please get busy and finish up this online course.

If you are having trouble with APEX, please contact Ms. Forbes at [sforbes1@houstonisd.org](mailto:sforbes1@houstonisd.org)

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## ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) Program

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) Program

Attention 10 - 12th graders interested in taking the ASVAB.  The ASVAB will be administered at Lamar HS (in-person) on Wednesday, January 20th . The ASVAB is a multiple choice assessment, administered by the United States Military Entrance Processing Command used to determine qualification for enlistment in the United States Armed Forces. This test covers eight general subjects, testing current knowledge and propensity to learn in different subject areas. It contains questions on English, science, mechanics and electronics. To learn more or take a practice test visit [www.asvabprogram.com]www.asvabprogram.com or  [https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/BLha4q5jolJnzUISsLRjHA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QwaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubWlsaXRhcnkuY29tL2pvaW4tYXJtZWQtZm9yY2VzL2FzdmFiVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~). To register to take the ASVAB at Lamar HS students should complete the Google form at [https://forms.gle/922o5eXEccoFfEC86](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/yU0SPO7muGM_-FdwS32s0g~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QjaHR0cHM6Ly9mb3Jtcy5nbGUvOTIybzVlWEVjY29GZkVDODZXB3NjaG9vbG1CCl_8stwAYIdYqpFSF0RKT05FUzEzQGhvdXN0b25pc2Qub3JnWAQAAAAB)  to begin the registration process. Students must be logged into the HISD Google account to access the link.

## ****Seniors to Success 2.0****

Are you ready for the workforce?

If not, join us and learn strategies and tools for success.

If you are, join us to meet employers and learn of job openings.

**MAGNIFY  YOUR POTENTIAL!**  
Student Registration is required.  
 A link for the TEAMS meeting will be sent after registering.

Click:  [2021\_Seniors to Success FLYER.pdf](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/R4Km57y493-254zqZ3bI1g~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPVJrME9hY1JPNjUwJm1hbD1hNDUwZTJjYTI4ODcyYzgzZDdhNzAyOThhY2UyMjMzNmJmOTgyMWM5OTVkMmI1OTA0NTRjMmNiNGVhMWU1YThhVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~)  for additional information.

## ****SENIOR ADS - RUNNING OUT OF TIME!****

**You have TWO DAYS LEFT to purchase a senior ad for the yearbook.**

**Payments are DUE by January 15th, and designs should be finalized by January 20th.**

**Below are the instructions for purchasing the senior ad:**

--> Go to [www.balfour.com](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/lDRQD43YNwSnv7p5sND-EA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QWaHR0cDovL3d3dy5iYWxmb3VyLmNvbVcHc2Nob29sbUIKX_yy3ABgh1iqkVIXREpPTkVTMTNAaG91c3RvbmlzZC5vcmdYBAAAAAE~)

--> Click yearbooks and enter your student's information

--> Once entered, click SHOP FOR THIS STUDENT

--> You will see all yearbook ad sizes and prices as well as all items available to purchase, such as the yearbook itself!

-->Once you purchase the ad space you then add photos and a message to personalize it!

Follow us on Instagram, Tic Tok, and Twitter @lamarlifeonline and @lamarlifeyearbook for more updates!

## Balfour Graduation Invitations



**GRADUATION DATE:  TBA**

Hello Texans! Its is 2nd Semester and Graduation is around the corner. Below we have attached links with all information needed for placing your Graduation Order. Orders can easily be placed online at balfour.com, placed at our office or placed at school on designated days. Balfour will be on campus during lunch for questions and orders on:

**Tuesday, Feb. 2**

and

**Wednesday, Mar. 3**

Packets have been left at the front reception area if you would like a hard copy of either brochure.

Lamar High Schools Custom Balfour Page

[https://www.balfour.com/texas/houston/lamar-high-school](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/URt3zLEKrt2sn9CgULaBNQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0Q3aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYmFsZm91ci5jb20vdGV4YXMvaG91c3Rvbi9sYW1hci1oaWdoLXNjaG9vbFcHc2Nob29sbUIKX_yy3ABgh1iqkVIXREpPTkVTMTNAaG91c3RvbmlzZC5vcmdYBAAAAAE~)

Class Jewelry Catalog

[https://online.flippingbook.com/view/1018756/](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/Jlf_XAvUWCzR1XjurpYbYw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QtaHR0cHM6Ly9vbmxpbmUuZmxpcHBpbmdib29rLmNvbS92aWV3LzEwMTg3NTYvVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~)

Graduation Catalog

[https://online.flippingbook.com/view/673253/](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/D9HSxjK7WmJJhTksla6u2Q~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QsaHR0cHM6Ly9vbmxpbmUuZmxpcHBpbmdib29rLmNvbS92aWV3LzY3MzI1My9XB3NjaG9vbG1CCl_8stwAYIdYqpFSF0RKT05FUzEzQGhvdXN0b25pc2Qub3JnWAQAAAAB)

All products except Cap and Gowns and Diploma Frames will be mailed directly to the students home. Cap and Gowns and Diplomas Frames will be delivered to the Senior Class at a later date in the Spring.

Please be aware that an individual processing fee will be included after March 3, 2021.

## LDT Winter Spectacular



When:  **January 15th**

Where:  **Ned S. Performance Hall**

Time:  **7 pm**

Purchase Tickets on SchoolPay: https://[www.schoolpay.com/parent/mip/Md8b](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/1iYUBM3h5kT3u0i-m5vG6w~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QoaHR0cDovL3d3dy5zY2hvb2xwYXkuY29tL3BhcmVudC9taXAvTWQ4YlcHc2Nob29sbUIKX_yy3ABgh1iqkVIXREpPTkVTMTNAaG91c3RvbmlzZC5vcmdYBAAAAAE~)

## ****All Sub-Varsity Athletics****

The district has cancelled all sub-varsity games until further notice.  Please contact your student's coach if you have any questions or concerns.

## WRESTLING FANCLOTH FUNDRAISER!!!!

**IT IS TIME TO GET YOU SOME NEW WRESTLING GEAR!!!**

**YOU CAN PURCHASE ITEMS AT THE LINK BELOW: The sale ends Jan. 18th.**

**Online store**

[**https://fancloth.shop/ZMCYT**](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/PrKwHt9bYL3d_afHztyzYQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0QbaHR0cHM6Ly9mYW5jbG90aC5zaG9wL1pNQ1lUVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~)

**THE ITEMS ARE SENT DIRECTLY TO YOUR HOME!!! NO MORE WAITING ON US.**

**When you purchase, you can put Coach Noble/Coach Wingard or a players name if you know them!**

**INTERESTED IN WRESTLING**

Contact Coach Wingard immediately  at [Justin.Wingard@houstonisd.org](mailto:Justin.Wingard@houstonisd.org)  if you are interested.

## Baseball Tryouts

Baseball tryouts will begin Friday Jan 22 at 4:30 PM at the baseball field. All required paperwork needs to be submitted PRIOR to trying out. Please email Coach Munoz at [Dmunoz@houstonisd.org](mailto:Dmunoz@houstonisd.org) for more information.

## ****Softball Tryouts****

Softball tryouts are Friday 1/15/21 and Saturday 1/16/21

All paperwork must be complete before trying out

**Location: Lamar HS**

**Time 4:30-6:30 1/15/21**

**Time 10:00-12:30 & 1:30-3:30 1/16/21**

Varsity Only tryouts

Must bring your own equipment and water bottle. Must attend all tryouts sessions

## ****Wraparound Services****

Our Wraparound Resource Specialist can help you with the following:

* Food & Nutrition
* Clothing/Uniforms Assistance
* Rental Assistance
* Homeless Assistance
* School Supplies Assistance
* Mental Health/Counseling Referrals
* Adult Education
* Crisis Support
* Healthcare
* Immigration Services
* Job Assistance
* Out of School Activities & More...

Click: [SAF Campaign 2020-2021 (002).docx](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/u_4w2N3Jau6dfaAhdXBlzQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh4hAyP0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPVJrME9hY1JPNjUwJm1hbD1hZDFlZGYzYzhkZjY5NzVmYWQ0NzM0MWYyNjg0NzZkMDRmYmY1NTM2NGUyNGY0YmY5MTQ2YTg5ZWVlZWU3ZjgzVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_LLcAGCHWKqRUhdESk9ORVMxM0Bob3VzdG9uaXNkLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~)  for additional information.

## ****Appointments****

Please try to schedule all appointments for days when students are virtual to help us limit the number of people on campus during the day.  This is an important part of our Communicable Diseases Plan and is important in maintaining in-person as an option for students.

In the event of a true emergency, please call in advance to let the Welcome Center know you are coming to campus.  **Please remember that we cannot check out students during the lunch period 11:45-12:45 p.m., or during the last 30 minutes of the school day (3:40-4:10 p.m.)**

## ****Need Help with Something Else?****

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| If your Advocacy Teacher is … | Your Academic Dean is …  Your Assistant Principal is...  Your Neighborhood Clerk is... |
| Mr. Arjon or Mr. A. Ryan  9A & 9B | Mr. Jefferson  [pjeffer2@houstonisd.org](mailto:pjeffer2@houstonisd.org)  Dr. Cain  [rcain@houstonisd.org](mailto:rcain@houstonisd.org)   Ms. Guzman   [Mguzman5@houstonisd.org](mailto:Mguzman5@houstonisd.org) |
| Ms. Argueta or Ms. Valle  9C & 9D | Ms. Lawrence [dlawren1@houstonisd.org](mailto:dlawren1@houstonisd.org)  Ms. King [kking8@houstonisd.org](mailto:kking8@houstonisd.org)   Ms. Chavez    [chavez7@houstonisd.org](mailto:chavez7@houstonisd.org) |
| Mr. Ross or Mr. Bajracharya/Ms. Langford 10A & 10B | Ms. Kamla  [jkamla@houstonisd.org](mailto:jkamla@houstonisd.org)  Dr. Mosby  [gmosby@houstonisd.org](mailto:gmosby@houstonisd.org)  Ms. Lewis      [Sheila.Lewis@houstonisd.org](mailto:Sheila.Lewis@houstonisd.org) |
| Mr. Rivera-Colon or Mr. Shalin 10C & 10D | Ms. Ballard  [jballard@houstonisd.org](mailto:jballard@houstonisd.org)  Ms. Fernandez [mfernan7@houstonisd.org](mailto:mfernan7@houstonisd.org)  Ms. Lewis      [Sheila.Lewis@houstonisd.org](mailto:Sheila.Lewis@houstonisd.org) |
| Mr. Sartor or Mr. Sarabia 11A & 11B | Ms. Brooks  [fbrooks1@houstonisd.org](mailto:fbrooks1@houstonisd.org)  Ms. Mann [dmann1@houstonisd.org](mailto:dmann1@houstonisd.org)  Ms. McCourt    [Melissa.McCourt@houstonisd.org](mailto:Melissa.McCourt@houstonisd.org) |
| Ms. Cobb or Mr. Firozi 11C & 11D | Mr. Mahone [Erron.Mahone@houstonisd.org](mailto:Erron.Mahone@houstonisd.org)  Mr. Thompson [kthompso@houstonisd.org](mailto:kthompso@houstonisd.org)  Ms. Ramirez    [pramirez@houstonisd.org](mailto:pramirez@houstonisd.org) |
| Ms. Rancifer or Ms. Hicks 12A &12B | Ms. Pruitt [cpruitt1@houstonisd.org](mailto:cpruitt1@houstonisd.org)  Ms. Pizana [mpizana@houstonisd.org](mailto:mpizana@houstonisd.org)  Ms. O'Banner  [t](mailto:tobanner@houstonisd.org)[obanner@houstonisd.org](mailto:obanner@houstonisd.org) |
| Mr. Mahendran or Ms. Wu 12C &12D | Mr. Braham  [abrahm@houstonisd.org](mailto:abrahm@houstonisd.org)  Mr. Alaniz  [jalaniz1@houstonisd.org](mailto:jalaniz1@houstonisd.org)  Mr. Osborne     [SOSBORNE@houstonisd.org](mailto:SOSBORNE@houstonisd.org) |

## ****An Inspirational Moment****

"Hold fast your dreams! Within your heart keep one still, secret spot where dreams may go and sheltered so, may thrive and grow."

Author:  Louise Driscoll

