



The Weekly Spark

Leaman Junior High School

Mike Semmler, Principal

November 1, 2020

Issue 10

Upcoming Events

Yearbooks!!

Purchase your 2020-2021 Yearbook www.balfour.com

Contact the front office if you purchased a 2019-2020 Yearbook and need to pick up (all current virtual 7th & 8th graders)

November Character Counts

Character Trait for November

RESPONSIBILITY

Plan Ahead | Persevere | Be Self-Disciplined
Think Before You Act

Athletics

All Athletic Game/Meet Schedules:
Visit DLJH's athletics website

[Leaman Athletics](http://www.leamanathletics.com)

www.lcisid.org/campuses/leamanjh/athletics

Don't forget:

November 2

Special Education Parent Virtual Meeting

November 4

Every Wednesday

Math Tutoring by NHS Students (via Zoom)

November 9

Beginning of 3rd 6 Weeks

November 9

Skyward & Canvas Webinar For Parents

November 20

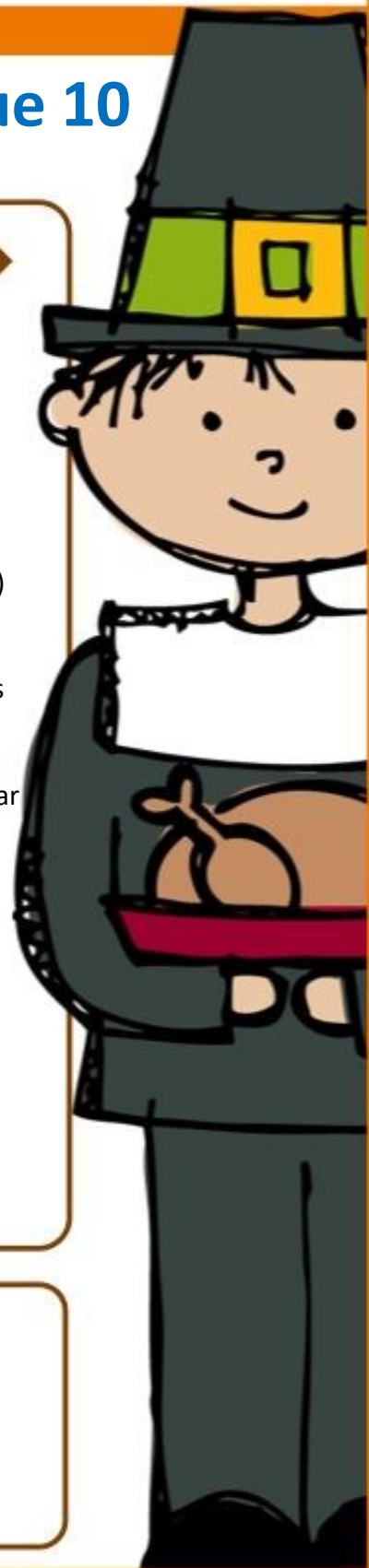
Washington DC Trip Sign Up Deadline

November 23-27

Thanksgiving Break

December 21 – Jan 4

Winter Break



Basketball Tryouts

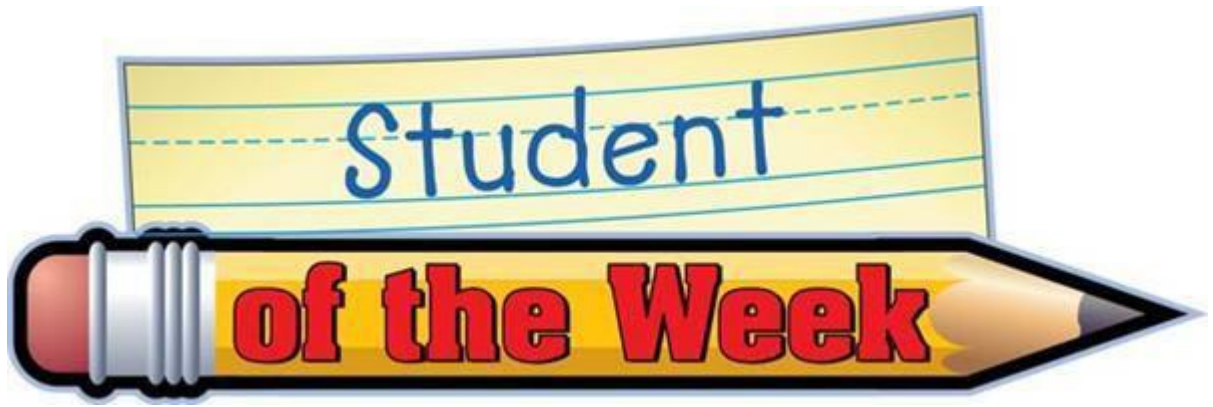
January 5th – 7th, 2021

Cross Country Meets Start 11/5
See School's Athletic website for location and times

New

Information
This Week

NEW!



7th *Grade*

Jaylan Brue

Nominated by: Ms. Green



8th *Grade*

Elida "Ella" Martin

Nominated by: Ms. Galvan



Don't miss this trip of a lifetime!

**REGISTER
NOW** 

4th Annual 8th Grade Trip 2021 Leaman Washington DC and Colonial Virginia Trip



Visit Washington DC & Colonial Virginia. Students will see sights as the US Capitol, the White House, Smithsonian Museum Complex, Arlington National Cemetery, Colonial Williamsburg, and more!!!

See Coach Walters for
questions
twalters@lcisd.org

June 1st-5th

Register by
November 19th
Registration
Charge \$99



2021 Washington, D.C. and Williamsburg, VA and Charlottesville, VA Trip

Dear Parents and Students,

I am excited to announce that I will lead a group of Dean Leaman Junior High School students on a WorldStrides program to Washington, D.C., Williamsburg, VA and Charlottesville, VA. On this once-in-a-lifetime adventure, students will explore our nation's most important historical sites and experience incomparable learning moments. This will be a trip that your child will be talking about for years to come!

Your child will return home excited to tell you about:

- Standing where Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial
- Discovering the true meaning of sacrifice at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- Walking in the footsteps of our great leaders on Capitol Hill
- Exploring numerous Smithsonian Museums, like the National Museum of Natural History and the National Air and Space Museum

I have chosen to travel with WorldStrides because of their exceptional service, their 50 years of experience, their safety record, and their preventive measures that ensure learning occurs in a safe and fun environment. I have led this trip for many years now and look forward to leading it again. I will chaperone the program with other teachers as needed, and throughout the program our group will be guided by a WorldStrides-certified Course Leader. **Since this is not a school sponsored trip, we will not be attending as representatives or employees of the school.**

Please read through all the details of this letter including a sample itinerary on the back of this page, and visit www.worldstrides.com/signup for more details about WorldStrides and our group's trip. If you have any questions, you can contact me via twalters@lcisd.org. **There will be a trip information meeting to discuss this wonderful opportunity; details will be announced shortly.**

I would love for your child to join us on this unforgettable trip!

Sign Up By Friday, November 20, 2020

Terry Walters
Program Leader



Washington, D.C., Williamsburg, VA, and Charlottesville, VA Sample Itinerary

DAY 1

Arrive in Washington, D.C.

Meet your WorldStrides representative and begin your once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Jefferson Memorial Dedicated to our third president and author of the Declaration of Independence

FDR Memorial In remembrance of former President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Dinner

Depart for **Williamsburg, VA**

***Evening Program** ("Storyteller") Enjoy 18th-century African stories and participate in a dynamic performance with costumed interpreters

Hotel check-in

DAY 2

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Jamestown Settlement (guided tour) Replica of the original site where those three famous ships landed in 1607, and home to: Powhatan Indian Village, James Fort, Museum

Lunch

Colonial Williamsburg Study Visit Explore the unique and rich history of 18th-century Williamsburg in this living museum

Governor's Palace Home to seven royal governors and the first two elected governors in Virginia

Dinner

Depart for **Charlottesville, VA**

Hotel check-in

DAY 3

Breakfast and hotel check-out

University of Virginia Visit Jefferson's academical village with stops at the Rotunda and the Lawn

Monticello Visit Thomas Jefferson's plantation home, and the grounds and gardens where he once cultivated hundreds of different fruits and vegetables

Lunch

Depart for **Washington, D.C.**

Capitol Hill Grounds Tour: Capitol Visitor Center (by appointment), Supreme Court, Library of Congress

Dinner

MLK Memorial Honors the famous civil rights activist, Martin Luther King, Jr.

World War II Memorial Honors the 16 million who served — and 400,000 who died — in the U.S. Armed Forces during WWII, and all who supported the war effort from home

Hotel check-in

DAY 4

Breakfast

Mount Vernon George Washington's home, plantation, and Education Center, which showcases life during colonial times, 18th-century treasures, and our first president as a farmer and businessman

Alexandria One of America's oldest and most historic cities

Washington Monument (picture stop)

The world's tallest stone monument, which honors our nation's first president

Lunch

White House (picture stop) Home of the U.S. president

Smithsonian Institution The world's largest museum complex: National Air and Space Museum, Natural History Museum, National Gallery of Art, National Museum of American History

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Korean War Veterans Memorial

Lincoln Memorial

Dinner

Return to hotel

DAY 5

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Arlington National Cemetery America's most famous military cemetery: Changing of the Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Kennedy Gravesites, Space Shuttle Challenger Memorial

Two Jima Memorial A tribute to all U.S. Marines based on the famous WWII photo by Joe Rosenthal

Lunch

National Archives Home of the original Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Declaration of Independence

Ford's Theatre and Petersen House (by appointment) Where President Lincoln was shot and later died on that fateful day

Dinner

Depart **Washington, D.C.**, for home

Washington, D.C., Williamsburg, VA, and Charlottesville, VA Details:

TRIP DATES

Trip ID#: 188067

Destination: Washington, D.C., Williamsburg, VA, Charlottesville, VA, Jamestown, VA, Yorktown, VA

Departing: Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Returning: Saturday, June 5, 2021

TRIP MEETING

There will be a trip information meeting to discuss this wonderful opportunity; details will be announced shortly.

TRIP PRICE

Prices are based on 35 full-paying participants.

Student: \$2,179 quadruple occupancy.

Adult: \$2,506 double occupancy.

Payment can be made in full or spread out into monthly installment payments*. Select EZPay when choosing monthly installment payments and have your payments automatically deducted from your bank account saving you time and potential missed payments.

Full Refund Program: An additional \$239 covers cancellation (see Terms and Conditions at www.worldstrides.com/ms-terms-conditions).

FLAG financial assistance: FLAG financial assistance may be available for families with an adjusted gross income up to \$85,000. See reverse for details.

*Installment amounts may vary in price based on when you sign up and optional inclusions. Your last payment must be made by the final payment deadline and may be larger than your previous installment payments. Your final payment is due on 03/18/2021.

INCLUDES

- Round trip transportation
- Sightseeing transportation
- Admission fees
- Course Leader
- Field Journals
- 24-Hour Emergency Support
- Opportunity to earn free school credit
- Evening Activities
- All Meals
- Quality hotel accommodations
- Accident/health insurance
- Night chaperones in
- Online educational resources

SIGN UP TODAY!

Sign Up By: 11/20/20

Deposit Amount: \$99 (non-refundable)

Sign Up:

- Online at www.worldstrides.com/signup (use **Trip ID#188067** to sign up)
- By phone – call WorldStrides' Customer Service Team at 1-800-468-5899
- By mail – use the registration form **on reverse**

Sign up today for the trip of a lifetime!



ONLINE

worldstrides.com/signup



PHONE

800-468-5899



MAIL

Fill out the attached form
and return by mail

MATH TUTORING CLASSES

by NHS Fulshear Students

JOIN US VIA ZOOM

<https://lcsd.zoom.us/j/84041703875>

Every Wednesday
Math Tutoring
4:30pm to 5:30pm



The Counselor's Corner



Character Trait for November and December

RESPONSIBILITY

Plan Ahead | Persevere | Be self-disciplined | Think before you act

What does Responsibility mean?

- Do what you are supposed to do • Plan ahead
- Be diligent • Persevere
 - Do your best • Use self-control • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act • Be accountable for your words, actions and attitudes • Set a good example for others

TIPS for Students:

HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE PERSON

Be reliable and dependable; when you agree to do something, do it.

Take care of your own business. Do what you are supposed to do.

Take responsibility for your actions; don't make excuses or blame others.

Think before you act; imagine the consequences.

7th and 8th Grade Counselors

Anita Oliphant- 7th Grade

Contact information: Anita.oliphant@lcisd.org

832-223-5209

Office Hours M-F 7:15-3:15

Latoya Session— 8th Grade

Contact information: lsession@lcisd.org

832-223-5269

Office Hours M-F 8:15-4:00

Dean Leaman Junior High School

Character Building at Home:

How Parents Can Promote Responsible Behavior at Home:

- Give your children tasks at home to accomplish.
- Focus on effort and a positive attitude rather than overemphasizing outcome.
- Applaud courageous social behaviors when your child avoids temptations.
- Insist that they take ownership for their own mistakes.
- Develop high expectations and link consequences to poor choices.

How Can I Help My Child be Successful in School?

1. Check in with your child **EVERYDAY!**
2. Create a consistent after-school routine. Provide a quiet place for your child to study and complete homework.
3. Be **POSITIVE!** Always speak positively about school, learning, and your child's teacher.
4. **ENCOURAGE!** Give your child the opportunity to excel in all areas of their learning.
5. Be sure that your child is getting plenty of rest each night and is ready for school each day.
6. Teach your children to be responsible for their actions and to take pride in all they do!
7. Stay **INVOLVED!** Make a point to ask your child about his/her day.
8. **COMMUNICATE...** Please know that you can contact your child's teacher or school counselor with any questions or concerns.

Affirmations:

Practice affirmations daily! Please encourage your students to say positive affirmations everyday!

Examples: I am Smart, I am Kind, I am Awesome.....



TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR SERIES

for parents and guardians

Lamar CISD understands that students are more successful in school when their parents are actively involved in their education. Join the Connect Academy Technology Webinar Series to learn more about the digital tools available to your family and how to support your child's education at home. Each session has a unique Zoom webinar link and will last one hour. We look forward to seeing you soon!



Skyward Family Access and Canvas Observers

Monday, November 9, 2020 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/88917975920>

As a parent, keeping track of your child's school info, grades, and activities can be a challenge. Join this Zoom webinar to take a closer look at how you can navigate your Skyward Family Access and Canvas Observer accounts to best serve your family and support your child's education.



Online Resources to support your child's learning

Monday, December 7, 2020 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/86142389512>

Join this Zoom webinar to learn more about the digital tools available to your student through Classlink, an online portal, which provides access to Office 365, library databases, e-books, specialized learning programs and more.



School - Family Communication

Monday, January 11, 2021 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/81263392737>

LCISD offers many channels of communication to connect with you and your family. Join us for this webinar to find out how to tap into district and campus info, manage notifications in Canvas and Skyward, and tips and tricks on how to communicate with your child's teachers to support their education.

Please visit www.lcisd.org/connect for more information and to check out upcoming events.



SERIE DE SEMINARIOS WEB DE TECNOLOGÍA

para padres y tutores

Lamar CISD entiende que los estudiantes tienen más éxito en la escuela cuando sus padres participan activamente en su educación. Únase a la serie de seminarios web de tecnología Connect Academy para obtener más información sobre las herramientas digitales disponibles para su familia y cómo apoyar la educación de su hijo en el hogar. ¡Cada sesión tiene un enlace único al seminario web de Zoom y durará una hora. Esperamos verte pronto!



Skyward Family Access y Canvas Observers

Lunes 9 de noviembre del 2020 de 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 pm.

Enlace al seminario web: <https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/88917975920>

Como padre, realizar un seguimiento de la información, las calificaciones y las actividades escolares de su hijo puede ser un desafío. Únase a este seminario web de Zoom para ver más de cerca cómo puede navegar por sus cuentas de Skyward Family Access y Canvas Observer para servir mejor a su familia y apoyar la educación de su hijo.



Recursos en línea para apoyar el aprendizaje de su hijo

Lunes 7 de diciembre del 2020 de 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 pm.

Enlace al seminario web: <https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/86142389512>

Únase a este seminario web de Zoom para obtener más información sobre las herramientas digitales disponibles para su estudiante a través de Classlink, un portal en línea, que brinda acceso a Office 365, bases de datos de bibliotecas, libros electrónicos, programas de aprendizaje especializados y más.



Escuela - Comunicación familiar

Lunes 11 de enero del 2021 de 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 pm.

Enlace al seminario web: <https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/81263392737>

LCISD ofrece muchos canales de comunicación para conectarse con usted y su familia. Únase a nosotros en este seminario web para descubrir cómo aprovechar la información del distrito y la escuela, administrar las notificaciones en Canvas y Skyward, y consejos y trucos sobre cómo comunicarse con los maestros(as) de su hijo(a) para apoyar su educación.

Visite www.lcisd.org/connect para obtener más información y ver los próximos eventos.

EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

In addition to explicit and systematic instruction in phonological awareness and phonemic awareness, phonics and word recognition, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension...

- Self-monitoring strategies
- Memory techniques to remember processes
- Explicitly teach and practice skills for organizing, time management and reviewing information

POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY COMMITTEE

- Copies of notes (e.g., teacher or peer-provided)
- Note-taking assistance
- Additional time on class assignments and tests
- Reduced/shortened assignments (e.g., chunking assignments into manageable units, fewer items given on a classroom test or homework assignment without eliminating concepts.
- Student planner to assist with assignments
- Alternative test location
- Priority seating assignment
- Oral reading of directions or written material
- Word banks
- Audiobooks
- Text to speech or speech to text
- Electronic spellers or dictionaries
- Charts
- Adaptive learning tools and features in software programs

For further information on state assessments please visit

https://tea.texas.gov/student_assessment/special-ed/

<https://tea.gov/accommodations>



Contacts for Further Information

State Dyslexia Consultant

Region 10 Education Service Center

400 E. Spring Valley Road Richardson, TX 75083-1300
Texas Dyslexia Hotline: 1(800) 232-3030
www.region10.org/dyslexia/index

Statewide English Language Arts/Reading Coordinator

Texas Education Agency Division of Curriculum

1701 N. Congress Avenue (512) 463-9581
www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.asp?id=4434

Dyslexia contacts at the

Texas Regional Education Service Centers

http://www.tea.state.tx.us/regional_services/esc/

Lamar CISD District Dyslexia Contact

Elizabeth Franklin
832-223-0485
efranklin@lcsd.org



International Dyslexia Association

<http://www.interdys.org>

Academic Language Therapy Association

<http://www.altaread.org>

Bookshare

<http://www.accessiblebookshare.org/>

Texas College and Career Readiness Support Center

<http://tccrsc.org/>

Partners Resource Network

<http://prntexas.org>

Lamar CISD website

<https://www.lcsd.org>

Departments/Special Programs/Dyslexia/Parent Resources

Dyslexia Program Awareness

for

Educators and Parents



What is dyslexia?

How do we assess and identify for dyslexia?

What are some effective strategies for students with dyslexia?

Who delivers intervention for students with dyslexia?

What are some accommodations available for students with dyslexia?

What is the difference between IDEA, Section 504, and RUI?

Who do I contact for information or concerns?



WHAT IS DYSLLEXIA?

The current definition from the International Dyslexia Association states:

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

Referenced in 2018 Dyslexia Handbook

HOW IS DYSLLEXIA ASSESSED AND IDENTIFIED?

The law that applies to an individual student is determined by data and the student's individual needs.

If a team determines that the data lead to the suspicion of a disability and that special education services are necessary to provide specially designed instruction, the team must refer the student for an evaluation under IDEA and all special education procedures must be followed.

If—based on the data—the team suspects that a student has dyslexia or a related disorder, but does not believe that special education is necessary to meet the student's needs, the team must refer the student for an evaluation under Section 504.

According to TEC §38.003(a) all public-school students are required to be screened for dyslexia while in kindergarten and first grade. Additionally, students enrolling in public schools in Texas must be assessed for dyslexia and related disorders "at appropriate times".

Schools must recommend evaluation for dyslexia if the student demonstrates the following:

- Poor performance in one or more areas of reading and spelling that is unexpected for the student's age/grade
- Characteristics and risk factors of dyslexia

When formal evaluation is recommended, the school must complete the evaluation process as outlined in IDEA or Section 504. Procedural safeguards under IDEA and Section 504 must be followed. Formal evaluations would assess the academic skills and cognitive processes related to dyslexia. Decisions are made by the ARD or the Section 504 committee.

For further information please refer to the Texas Dyslexia Handbook

The Dyslexia Handbook, 2018 Update
<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/dyslexia/>

QUESTIONS FOR DETERMINING DYSLLEXIA

1. Do the data show the following characteristics of dyslexia?
 - ◊ Difficulty with accurate and/or fluent word reading
 - ◊ Poor spelling skills
 - ◊ Poor decoding ability
2. Do these difficulties (typically) result from a deficit in the phonological component of language?
3. Are these difficulties unexpected for the student's age in relation to the student's other cognitive abilities and provision of effective classroom instruction?

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN RLI/504/IDEA

Response to Intervention: is a tiered approach to providing services and interventions at increasing levels of intensity to students who struggle with learning.

Section 504: provides equal opportunity to eligible students with disabilities when compared to their non-disabled peers. Provides support and interventions through general education.

IDEA: ensures that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education. Provides individual supplemental educational services and supports in addition to what is provided to students in the general curriculum to ensure that the child has access to and benefits from the general curriculum.

WHO DELIVERS DYSLLEXIA INTERVENTION?



A certified teacher who has been trained in dyslexia and related disorders and the curriculum of instruction.

LEAMAN

JUNIOR HIGH



Face to Face students took the PSAT 8/9 on October 14, 2020.
Your student will be notified by email when the scores come in.

PSAT 8/9

Virtual students who opt-in for the PSAT 8/9 will test in January - date TBD.
If you missed the October 2nd deadline, and would like your student to take the PSAT 8/9, please complete the following [survey](#) by **DECEMBER 7th, 2020 @ 8 AM.**

For more information about the PSAT, please visit the [College Board site](#).

For more information about testing in LCISD visit the [Students & Parents](#) site.

TEA Interim Assessments

- Math and English Language Arts will be giving TEA Interim Assessments this fall.
 - Face to face students will test during the class period over two days (if needed)
 - Virtual students will test at home
 - Dates TBA by your student's ELAR & Math Teachers (check Canvas calendars)
 - These assessments benchmark student progress at key points in the year.
 - These assessments be done on a laptop or desktop computer – **phones or iPads cannot be used.**
 - Students will access the TEA Interim Assessment App through [Classlink](#).
 - Log in information for each assessment will come from your student's Math and ELAR teachers.
 - All core subjects will test in the spring.
 - Math, ELAR, Science (8th), U.S. History (8th)
 - For more information about testing in LCISD visit the [Students & Parents](#) site.
-

Progress Monitoring Assessments

- Writing, Social Studies, and Science students will take LCISD Progress Monitoring Assessments throughout the year (fall, winter, spring).
 - Face to face students will test during the class period
 - Virtual students will test at home through Eduphoria Aware Online found in [Classlink](#)
 - Dates TBA by your student's teachers (check Canvas calendars)
 - These need to be completed in one sitting (you cannot save and come back to it later).
- These will gauge student progress on standards covered by that point in the year.
- Must be done on a laptop, desktop computer, or iPad (no phones).
- Students will access the Eduphoria Aware App through [Classlink](#).
 - Log in is the same as Classlink **without student initials**
 - Ex. Classlink log in: ao123456 Eduphoria log in: 123456
 - The password is the same used for Classlink
- For more information about testing in LCISD visit the [Students & Parents](#) site.



LCISD SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS

Virtual Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://lcisd.zoom.us/j/5241613045>

Monday, November 2, 2020

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Special Education Staff will be in attendance for introductions, discussion, and to answer questions.

Topics:

The Power of the ARD

Hosted by LCISD SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee)



- Who is going the extra mile for you?
- Think for a moment about the amazing staff at Leaman. Who is working hard for students? Nominate a teacher or staff member that you would like to recognize for their hard work in the [Be the One survey](#). If you agree, we will post the shout out on Facebook to share what a great a place Leaman is. You can fill this survey out for as many staff members as you'd like.
- Each Monday the results will be gathered. They will then be shared with staff members during Tuesday department meetings or Wednesday staff meetings.
- ❤️Thanks for sharing the love ❤️

Welcome to Leaman!

Welcome to Leaman!

Frequently Asked Questions



Attendance

Excuses for absences must be submitted within 10 days of the absence. These can be e-mailed, faxed, or dropped off in the attendance office.

Michelle O'Brien april.obrien@lcisd.org
Fax: (832) 223-5201

Behavior Expectations

Students follow the P.R.I.D.E. matrix for expected behaviors. The LCISD student code of conduct can be found in the LCISD Secondary handbook at this link:

<http://www.lcisd.org/students-parents/general-information>

P.E. Uniforms

All P.E. and Dance students must dress out every day. P.E. uniforms are available for purchase from the coaches for \$25.00 (shirt and shorts). Lockers are available to store items in the dressing rooms.

Extracurricular/Clubs

Leaman has a variety of fun organizations. Check out our website for more information at this link:

<http://www.lcisd.org/campuses/leamanjh/extracurricular>



Homework

Each teacher's Canvas page will include homework information for their course.

Uniform/Dress Code

Leaman Junior High follows the dress code policy in the LCISD Secondary handbook at this link:

<http://www.lcisd.org/students-parents/general-information>

When a student is out of dress code, he or she will be required to change.

Birthdays

Gifts, cakes, cupcakes, balloons, treat bags, and flowers are not to be sent to school. Invitations to individual parties are not to be distributed at school, during class time.

Lockers

Lockers are optional. There is a mass check out at the beginning of each year. At any other time, if your student wants a locker, they will contact Jennifer Leslie jleslie@lcisd.org

Transportation changes

Submit all changes by 3:00 each day. Students cannot ride the bus home with other students due to limited seating.



Lunchtime

A parent can only provide lunch for his/her child. Students are not allowed to pop popcorn for lunch.

Drinks must be in a clear see-through bottle.

Communication

A weekly newsletter will be sent out each Friday. This newsletter contains important information about our upcoming events and current programs. You will receive a phone reminder about this e-mail each Friday as well.

Cell Phones

Students can only use their phones when permitted by a staff member. If a phone is taken, there will be a \$15.00 fee.

Textbooks

Consumable workbooks and textbooks will be provided in the classroom.

Textbooks (for home usage) can be checked out from Jennifer Leslie

jleslie@lcisd.org
(if available)

Conferences

To set up a conference with a teacher, counselor, or principal, please contact them directly via e-mail or phone.

