

The Weekly Spark

Leaman Junior High School

Mike Semmler, Principal

November 30, 2020

Issue 13

GT Referral - Nominations

Due by **December 18, 2020**. Testing will begin in January and parents will be notified the first week in May of testing results.

GT Referral-Nomination forms can be picked up in the Front office or accessed under Documents for Parents from the following link found on the Advanced Studies Site at: <http://www.lcisd.org/departments/academics/advanced-studies>. Send the completed form to sschmidt@lcisd.org or return it to the front office by **December 18, 2020**.

Fall Exam Schedule

Exemption Form due Dec. 9 via Skyward

Wednesday, December 16th:

3rd & 6th Final Exams

Thursday, December 17th:

2nd, 4th & 5th Final Exams

Friday, December 18th (Half Day)

1st & 7th Final Exam

SEE ATTACHED FOR EXACT SCHEDULE

Reminders

December 5

Learning Model Change
Deadline

December 9

Final Exam Exemptions
Due

December 16-18

2020 Fall Final Exams

December 18

GT Referral-
Nominations Forms Due

December 18

Early Dismissal

December 21 – Jan 4

Winter Break

Athletics

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

[Leaman Athletics](http://www.lcisd.org/campuses/leamanjh/athletics)

www.lcisd.org/campuses/leamanjh/athletics

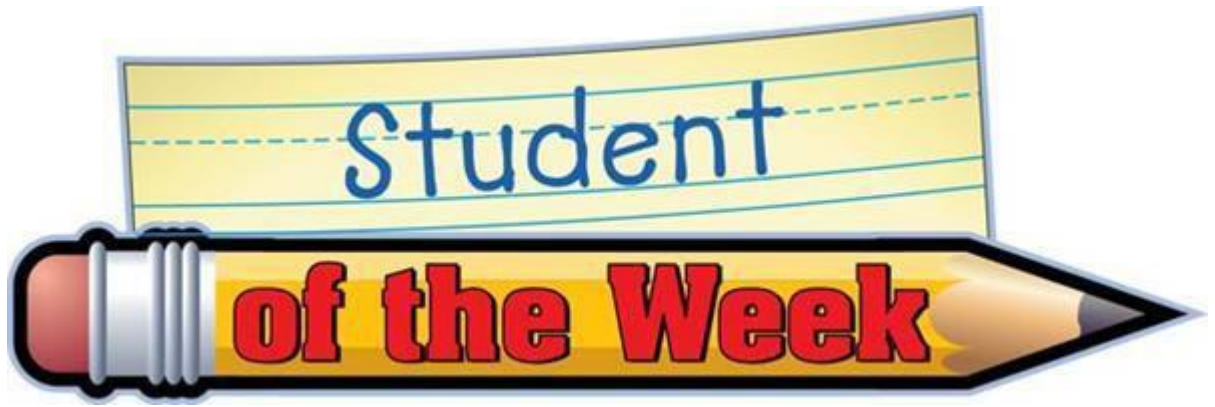
Basketball Tryouts
January 5th – 7th, 2021

Cross Country
See School's Athletic website for
location and times

New

Information
This Week

NEW!



7th *Grade*

Kamila Elisea
Nominated by: Mr. Aaron



8th *Grade*

Alissa “Nicole” McCutchan
Nominated by: Ms. Session





Lamar CISD Secondary Parents,

The Learning Model Change Form for secondary students for the fourth six weeks is available in Skyward Family Access. The deadline for requesting a change in learning model for the fourth six weeks is Friday, Dec. 4. No changes in learning model will be accepted after Dec. 4, as the District must plan for master schedules, classroom space, virtual instruction and how to best meet the needs of our students.

Parents who would like to change their student's learning model can use [these instructions](#) to access and submit the form in Skyward. If there is no change for your student, you do not need to submit the form. It is also important to note:

- **It is our intent to minimize classroom shifts as much as possible, however, the need to balance class sizes and schedules with two different instructional models will likely require some students to have a different teacher for the fourth grading period, even if they haven't changed learning models.**
- **Campuses will contact families with students transitioning from virtual to on-campus instruction to communicate safety protocols and ensure a safe return to campus.**
- **All campuses will contact parents about next steps after the Dec. 4 deadline.**

Overview of On-Campus Instruction:

- **All parents are expected to screen students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending them to school.**
- **While the COVID-19 Risk Level is red, orange or yellow, face coverings are required for all students when in common spaces, hallways, on buses and during arrival and dismissal. Students in grades 4th-12th are also required to wear face coverings in the classroom.**
- **While in the classroom, students will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.**

Overview of Virtual Instruction:

- **Virtual instruction will require students to participate in asynchronous (online without real-time interaction) and synchronous (real-time) online learning.**
- **Each day, students will engage in daily lessons, activities and assignments in all classes to be marked present.**
- **Each virtual student will likely need their own device and access to high-speed internet at home.**

If you have questions regarding the Learning Model Change form, please contact your child's campus.

[Click here](#) for more information on Lamar CISD's on-campus and virtual instruction, COVID-19 disease mitigation and more.

LEAMAN JUNIOR HIGH FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION PROCEDURES

Fall 2020

1. District Exemption Policy:

- An 80 or above in class to be exempted (average 1st, 2nd, & 3rd six weeks).
- No more than 3 office referrals, with no more than 1 assignment to ISS not to exceed 3 days. No assignments to ALC or suspensions. (Refer to discipline box on exemption form).
- No outstanding fees/fines (Do not grant an exemption until student obtains administrator signature and library signature. This ensures student is clear of holds and fines).
- Reductions in grade below 80, fine, or discipline referral after the exemption declaration may negate the exemptions.

2. Questions?

Students who have a question or need assistance during the exemption process may go to their grade level administrator's office. If we are unable to immediately answer your question – we will resolve your question/concern within 24 hours.

3. Where do I go if I exempt a final but need to remain on campus?

Students who exempt a final exam but require transportation to or from campus and are therefore on campus during the exempted time period must immediately report to their classroom. A pass will be handed to exempt students to go to the cafeteria for monitoring.

4. When do I receive my Fall 2020 Exemption Form?

The Final Exam Exemption process will open in Skyward on **Friday, Dec. 4th**. See the attached instructions on how to select which classes the student will exempt.

5. When & Where do I turn in my Exemption Form?

All students, face-to-face and virtual, must have their Final Exam Exemptions completed in Skyward by **Wednesday, Dec. 9th**. Forms will not be accepted after the deadline. No exceptions.

If you have a question, or have trouble filling out the form, reach out to your grade level assistant principal for help. 8th Grade Karl Carlton kcarlton@lcisd.org or 7th Grade Jimitra Granger jimitra.granger@lcisd.org.

6. Holds/Fines/Fees/Textbooks & Equipment

Students who have a hold, fine, fee, textbook or equipment fee must clear their fine by **Friday, Dec. 11th @ 9:00 AM** to avoid losing their exemption. This includes all technology that was checked out to virtual students who have returned. Current virtual students do not need to turn in their checked out technology.

7. Can I exempt ELA, Math, Science or Social Studies both semesters?

Students may exempt a core final exam during Fall and Spring as long as junior high exemption requirements are met (see above).

8. Can I exempt my elective or extra-curricular class (athletics, CTE, fine arts)?

Yes, students may exempt their elective or extra-curricular class if the exemption requirements have been met, the coach/director approves the exemption and the exemption counts toward the student exemption limit.

9. Final Exam Make-up Dates & Information (must be pre-arranged with approval).

Final exam make-up dates begin on **Tuesday, January 5th** (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM) and run through **Friday, January 8th** (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM). Students who have excused absences due to extenuating circumstances and notify teachers prior to the absence are eligible for the make-up exam dates in January. Failure to show for a final exam without prior approval from Mr. Semmler (Principal) will result in a 0 for the final exam grade. Make-up exams will be held with the classroom teacher.

10. May I take a final exam prior to the first final exam administration on Wednesday, Dec. 16th?

If a Teacher can work it out to take the exam in advance, this is fine, but due to test security and fairness, you may be required to attend the Final Exam makeup sessions January 5th – 8th. (see above).

Final Exam Exemptions

Student Selection Instructions

<p>1. Click on the "Online Forms" menu option.</p>																																	
<p>2. Click on the "Fill Out Form" button for the SM1 Final Exam Exemption form.</p>																																	
<p>3. After reviewing form introduction, click on the "Next" button.</p>																																	
<p>4. After reading ALL final exam exemption information, use the class drop down area to fill out your basic schedule.</p>																																	
<p>5. Enter the last name of your teacher for each period.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Exempt</th> <th>Period</th> <th>Class</th> <th>Teacher</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>1</td> <td>English</td> <td>Randle</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>2</td> <td>Social Studies</td> <td>Mossige</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>3</td> <td>Other</td> <td>Bowen</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>4</td> <td>Fine Arts</td> <td>Rockwood</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>5</td> <td>Math</td> <td>Osage</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>6</td> <td>Science</td> <td>Parks</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>7</td> <td>Athletics/PE</td> <td>Marchena</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Exempt	Period	Class	Teacher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	English	Randle	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Social Studies	Mossige	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Other	Bowen	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Fine Arts	Rockwood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5	Math	Osage	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Science	Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Athletics/PE	Marchena
Exempt	Period	Class	Teacher																														
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	English	Randle																														
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Social Studies	Mossige																														
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Other	Bowen																														
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Fine Arts	Rockwood																														
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5	Math	Osage																														
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Science	Parks																														
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Athletics/PE	Marchena																														
<p>6. Select which periods you wish to exempt.</p>																																	
<p>7. Click the "Complete Step 1 and move to Step 2" button at the bottom of the screen.</p>																																	
<p>8. Click the "Submit SM1 Final Exam Exemption" button to finalize your final exam exemptions.</p>																																	

Final Exam Exemptions

Student Instructions – EDIT SELECTIONS

1. Click on the “Online Forms” menu option.

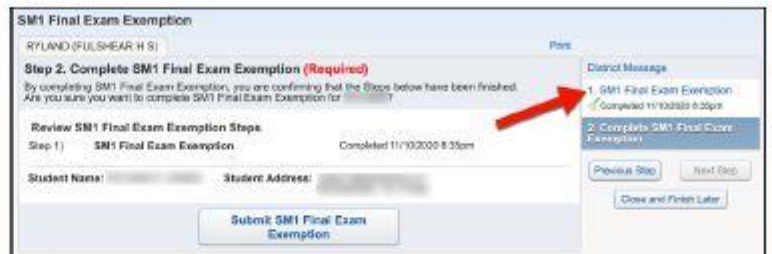


2. Click on the “View” button for the SM1 Final Exam Exemption form.

3. Click the “Mark as not completed and make changes” button.

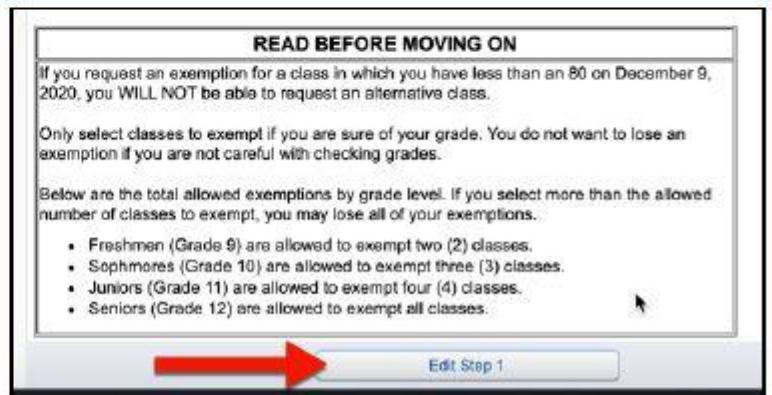


4. After the screen refreshes, click on the “SM1 Final Exam Exemption” button on the right side of the screen.



5. Click on the “Edit Step 1” button at the bottom of the screen.

The screen will refresh and you can now edit your exemption selections.



LEAMAN JUNIOR HIGH



Fall 2020 Final Exam Bell Schedule

Exemption Form Distribution Date Through Skyward: Friday, December 4, 2020

Exemption Form Due Date: Completed forms through Skyward due by Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

Skyward Approved Exemptions Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 by 4:00 pm.

Final Exam Make-up Dates: Tuesday, January 5 – Friday, January 8, 2021

Monday, December 14, 2020: Regular Bell Schedule

Tuesday, December 15, 2020: Regular Bell Schedule

Wednesday, December 16, 2020: Full day with 3rd and 6th period Exams

- Students must attend class periods in which the student is NOT exempt or loss of exemption(s) may occur.
- Breakfast and lunch will be served

3 rd Review	8:15 – 8:50 (35 minutes)
5 th Review	8:55 – 9:30 (35 minutes)
6 th Review	9:35 – 10:10 (35 minutes)
Normal 4 th Period Schedule	10:15 – 12:15 (120 minutes)
3 rd Final Exam	12:20 – 1:55 (95 minutes)
6 th Final Exam	2:00 - 3:40 (100 minutes)

Thursday, December 17, 2020: Full day with 2nd, 4th and 5th period Exams

- Students must attend scheduled final exam period and/or class period if not approved for a final exam exemption.
- Breakfast and lunch will be served

2 nd Review	8:15 – 8:45 (30 minutes)
2nd Final Exam	8:45 – 10:15 (90 minutes)
Normal 4 th Period Schedule	10:20 – 12:20 (120 minutes)
4 th Final Exam	12:25 – 2:00 (95 minutes)
5 th Final Exam	2:05 - 3:40 (95 minutes)

Friday, December 18, 2020: Half Day with 1st and 7th period Exams

- Breakfast served
- Lunch will not be served

1 st Final Exam	8:15 -10:10 (25 minutes review, 90 minutes exam)
7 th Final Exam	10:15 -12:15 (30 minutes review, 90 minutes exam)

Informational Zooms on CTE Programs of Study

We will be offering virtual opportunities for parents and students to learn more about the 13 programs of study that are offered in LCISD. These sessions will occur on Tuesday, December 1-Thursday, December 3. In these Zoom sessions, we will be discussing endorsements attained through the programs of study, the different pathways offered through the programs of study, industry certifications offered within the programs of study, and CTE Student Organizations associated with the programs of study. Please see the schedule for these informational Zooms below:

Time	Tuesday, December 1	Wednesday, December 2	Thursday, December 3
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources & Manufacturing• Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Architecture & Construction• Health Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation, Distribution & Logistics• Business, Marketing, & Finance
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Law and Public Services• Arts, Audio/Technology, & Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education & Training• STEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hospitality & Tourism• Human Services

**IT'S HERE
YOUR LEAMAN
JR HIGH
YEARBOOK**

*Listen parents, the
yearbook is now out
for sale. Order at
BALFOUR.COM,
before January 1st,
you can save money.*

**CAN YOU
SURVIVE
NOT HAVING
A YEARBOOK?**



Greater Houston



**Holiday 2020
Classes to
support you!**

Do you live with a mental health condition?
Or **do you care for someone** with the symptoms of
a mental health condition?

Major Depression, Bipolar Disorder (Manic Depression) Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective Disorder, Borderline, Panic Disorder or Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, DID Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury Co-occurring Brain Disorders or Addictive Disorders

For Family Members, we offer:

Family-to-Family a 8-week class to help you support individuals with mental health concerns while maintaining your own well-being. The course is taught by trained NAMI family member volunteers who know what it's like to have a loved one struggling with one of these conditions. There is no cost to participate in Family to Family. We think you will be pleased by how much assistance the program offers.

For Parents/Caregivers of children/adolescents:

We offer **NAMI Basics** a 6-week class to parents understand what the condition presents for the family, how to manage extended family relationships, best practices in caring for the child, communication with the medical community and school. It also includes information related to treatment, self-care and advocacy. Each session is 2 ½ hours.

The **NAMI Peer-to-Peer Education Course** is for individuals living with a mental health condition (18 years and older) who is interested in establishing and maintaining their wellness and recovery. Each class is two hours in length and continues for 8 consecutive weeks.

NAMI Courses use a combination of lecture, interactive exercise and structured group processes, and the diversity of experience among the course participants affords for a lively dynamic that moves the courses along.

Class Name	Time	Teachers	Start Date
Family to Family	Saturdays, 9:30 pm – 12:00 noon	R. Gamblin D. Biagas T. Quick	November 14
De Familia a Familia	Fridays, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Sergio Aguirre Cristina Oliveros Salyna Garza	December 4
NAMI Basics	Tuesdays, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Julie Orff Linda Lamb Kathleen Collins	December 8
NAMI Basics	Saturdays, 9:30 pm – 12:00 noon	John Dixon Tracey Moette Benjetta West	December 12
Bases y Fundamentos	Fridays, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Laurenza Retana Anna Guerrero Valerie de Leon	December 4
Peer to Peer	Saturdays, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Olivia Hinderer Tracey Paxton Livvy Hudson	November 14
Peer to Peer	Wednesdays, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Patti Suler Glenda Luco Amy Bun	December 9

**TO REGISTER: 713-970-4435 (English)
Or llame, por favor, 713-970-4481 (Spanish)
or email register@namigreaterhouston.org
Must be eligible to attend. Registration required.**



LCISD Parent Training: Proactive Parenting

Please join us for a

PARENT TRAINING SESSION

• TUESDAY DECEMBER 15 • 6:00-7:00PM •

ZOOM <https://lcsid.zoom.us/j/83217589616>

Important Updates from Nurse Boddie



If a student is waiting for COVID test results - please keep student home, until results are received.

Do not send students to school, who are waiting on COVID test results.

ALL students must bring two (2) masks to school.

Students must be wearing one mask, as they enter school or bus.

And keep a second in their backpack, incase the 1st one breaks, lost or otherwise misplaced.

Masks are worn, covering Mouth AND Nose

Contact Nurse Boddie with any questions kboddie@lcsd.org

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.....

LEAMAN JUNIOR HIGH



8th Grade 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.

There are no make up tests for students who missed the October administration.

PSAT 8/9

8th Grade virtual students who opt-in for the PSAT 8/9 will test on **January 6th, 2021 starting at 8:15 AM.** If you would like your student to take the PSAT 8/9, please complete the following [survey](#) by **DECEMBER 7th, 2020 @ 8 AM.** This is not a make up session for students who missed the October administration. This is for virtual learners only.

For more information about the PSAT, please visit the [College Board site](#).
For more information about testing in LCISD visit the [Students & Parents](#) site.

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 must be done on a laptop or desktop computer – **phones or iPads cannot be used.**

TEA Interim Assessments

Students will access the TEA Interim Assessment App through [Classlink](#).

Log in information for each assessment can be found on [Skyward Family Access](#) using these [directions](#).

Directions for accessing the Interim Assessment App in Classlink can be found [HERE](#) or in your teacher's [Canvas](#) course.

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.

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 for each course)

These are best when completed in one sitting.

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

Student directions can be found [HERE](#).

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

Progress Monitoring Assessments



- 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.

