



LASA High School is pleased to bring you *Lots of LASA*, a weekly electronic newsletter designed to keep you updated with important news, dates and links.

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Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

This week's schedule: SEE BELOW

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Upcoming Events from Mr. Sanchez
- Lost & Found to be donated at end of Semester.
- Counselors Corner
- Students Council Fundraiser @ Taco Bell
- Congratulations! Dan Liu, Model UN & David Wolfson
- PFLASA – Thanks & Wish of the Week
- Senior Ad Deadline extended to end of year

### Upcoming Finals and Holiday Schedule:

Monday, Dec. 14, **Finals 2<sup>nd</sup>** - 8-10am & **4<sup>th</sup>** - 10:10-12:10

attend classes - 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:15-2:25 & 8<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-3:40

Tuesday, Dec. 15, **Finals 1<sup>st</sup>** 8-10am & **3<sup>rd</sup>** 10:10 - early release at 12:10pm

Wednesday, Dec. 16, **Finals 5<sup>th</sup>** 8-10am & **7<sup>th</sup>**, 10:10 - early release at 12:10pm

Thursday, Dec. 17, **Finals 6<sup>th</sup>** 8-10am & **8<sup>th</sup>**, 10:10 - early release at 12:10pm

**PSAT scores will be available and distributed during forum on January 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Lost & Found Reminder:** It's that time of year and our lost and found is overflowing with lunch boxes, jackets and more! If your student is missing something, please have them come by the LASA office to check the lost and found BEFORE the end of the day Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be taking anything left over as a donation to a local non-profit organization.

Thursday is the last day of school until Tuesday, January 5, 2010.

### ***The schedule for the week we return is:***

1/5/10	Tuesday	C	Attend Forum at 8:00 am
1/6/10	Wednesday	C	Attend Forum at regular time.
1/7/10	Thursday	A	
1/8/10	Friday	B	

***LASA will be recognized*** at Monday's Board meeting for rating Exemplary (the only secondary school) and its 10 Golden Performance Awards (the most of any school in the district.)

***The US News and World Report rankings were released this week.*** Unfortunately, no AISD schools, including LASA, were listed among the gold, silver, bronze medal or even honorable mention schools. Unlike other awards where we were not able to participate in because of the year of data evaluated, LASA does have Advanced Placement data for that school year.

Ms. Harrelson and I did the math and discovered that LASA's College Readiness Index is 69.10 and our Quality-Adjusted Exams per test taker was 4.25. With those numbers, LASA is a Gold Medal School and ranked number 73. I have already requested from US News as to where they retrieved the data that did not include LASA and as well as no other AISD school. Hopefully, we will hear back by the time we return from winter break.

**Reminder about completing the AISD Budget Survey:** Here is a copy of the press release. **Community Encouraged to Take On-Line Survey on AISD Budget** - The Austin School District has launched an online survey to gain additional community input on the School District budget. The survey follows closely on the heels of two Community Conversations that resulted in more than 300 people participating in exercises designed to give them a sense of the difficult decisions the Board of Trustees faces next year in developing the 2010-2011 school year budget.

“The District is facing a budget shortfall of \$15 million for FY 2010-11, just to cover normal operating expenses,” said Chief Financial Officer Nicole Conley-Abram. “This deficit grows even larger when additional budget increases are considered for new instructional programming tied to the District's Strategic Plan and potential employee raises. The District is now contemplating various budget reduction proposals to assist in closing this budget gap. Therefore, the District would like to obtain your input and feedback to the proposals that are currently being considered.”

The 7-question survey can be found on-line at: [www.austinisd.org/inside/budget/survey.phtml](http://www.austinisd.org/inside/budget/survey.phtml).

### **Counselor's Corner**

**UT Final Deadline approaching:** As a reminder, the FINAL admissions deadline for The University of Texas is **Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Everything must be RECEIVED by this date, including application and essays (Topics A&B) submitted electronically through Apply Texas: <http://www.applytexas.org>, as well as transcript and test scores. Letters of recommendation are not required, but if you are having them sent on your behalf, they also need to be received on or before Tuesday.

**SAT Fee Waivers for January 23 test:** The regular registration deadline for the January test is this Tuesday, December 15. If you are eligible for a fee waiver and want to take the January 23<sup>rd</sup> test, pick up your fee waiver from Ms. Kocian on Monday or Tuesday of this week.

**ACT Fee Waivers for February 6 test:** Any fee waiver eligible students wanting to take the ACT on February 6, 2010 should pick up their fee waivers from Ms. Kocian before leaving for the holiday break. The regular registration deadline for the February test is Tuesday, January 5, 2010 (the day students return from break).

### **LASA STUDENT COUNCIL TACO FUNDRAISER:**

When: Tuesday, December 15, from 5-9 PM

Where: Taco Cabana at William Cannon & MoPac

Why: To help pay for HOMECOMING and PROM

\*All you have to do is save the receipt, and we get some of the profit. There will be Student Council officers there to help out and answer any questions. Hope to see y'all there!

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Dan Liu is LASA's and Austin ISD's first Siemens Competition Award winner.** The decision was announced last Monday in New York City. He and his group will split the scholarship of \$100,000. In the regional competitions leading up to this point, he and his two group members have already won \$3000 each and \$1000 for each of their high schools. To learn more about the competition and the prize, visit <http://www.siemens-foundation.org/en/> and to read the Statesman's article about him:

<http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/stories/local/2009/12/08/1208siemens.html>

**LASA's Model UN went to San Antonio this last week:** 32 schools participated approx. 1200 students from Central Tx. and Mexico with 17 committees and anywhere from 40-90 students in each committee

School and individual delegate awards given based on country authenticity, following parliamentary procedure, public speaking, and negotiation/diplomatic skills

3 Levels -- Best Delegate/Delegation (1st) -- Outstanding Delegate/Delegation (2nd)  
Honorable Delegate/Delegation (3rd)

It was awesome! Our kids represented LASA and the LASA ethos wonderfully!  
LASA won the school award for honorable delegation & these students won individual awards:

Honorable: Zoe Wolzon (General Assembly)

Honorable: Charles Yu (NATO)

Honorable: Lee McClenon (Disarmament)

Best: Josh Trubowitz (ECOSOC)

Best: Ran Woodfin (OAS)

Best: Jeff Covell (NATO)

Best: Leah Weiser (UNICEF)

**LASA Latin Club competed in the annual St. Michael/St. Andrew's certamen** event at St. Michael's Academy. All three LASA teams advanced to the Finals where the Novice level (Latin 1) team took second place, the Lower level (Latin 2) team clinched first place and the Upper level team took another second place trophy. It's always quite an accomplishment for these students to perform so well against these private schools and considering that they were doing so at one of those institutions, their accomplishments are that much more extraordinary.

The teams were comprised of:

### Novice Level

Hamsini Sriraman

Lydia Liou

Tara McHale Marin

### Lower Level

Roger Cain

Austin Le

Kathryn Laflin

### Upper Level

Adam Khan

Thomas Littrell

Aaron Pellowski

Indy Prentice

Saturday evening was also the time for the annual Broomball Tournament at Chaparral Ice. As usual, the groups were made of students from all the language classes, with Latin and Spanish comprising the majority of the membership. After two hours of hard fighting, the Spanish group pulled out a 4-1 victory over the composite forces of Latin, German and Japanese.

**LASA junior David Wolfson was featured in last week's Austin American-Statesman... check it out!**

<http://www.statesman.com/search/content/sports/stories/highschool/2009/12/11/1211prepfac.html>

**PFLASA** Next PFLASA meeting is on Friday, January 15 at 8:00 am in the library. PFLASA co-chairs and executive board thank the LASA community for their generous donations this Fall. Enjoy the Winter Break and holiday season!

### **WOW - WISH OF THE WEEK! - check out our eclectic Wish List!**

Parents...I had just a few peeps last week...please check out this list and see if you have anything you can donate...these items can be used (but serviceable, please)! Thank you! If you can help, please contact [annsgraham@gmail.com](mailto:annsgraham@gmail.com)

A CD player; SAT/ACT Prep books; a microwave; cans of house paint; magazines of journalistic/photographic interest for EZine students; Art and/or Art History Books; copies of Fast Food Nation; binoculars; woody plant and/or bird field guides; white boards; easel for large scale poster boards; Thesauruses; dictionaries.

### **Robotics Request from Mr. Bertucci –**

Robotics needs two old Roomba Vacuums. The model does not matter. They do not need to vacuum but they do need to drive around (for at least a few minutes, the longer the better). Contact Mr. Bertucci at 414-7043 or bring them by the LASA office. He needs them by the middle of January.

**Attention all LASA parents, Senior Ad deadlines extended** for the convenience of the parents. Senior ads are one of the main ways that the yearbook is paid for and is a once in a lifetime opportunity to lock memories in a custom designed page in the yearbook. The deadline is anytime before the end of the year (Dec. 31st) with the size emailed to Kenneth Dang at [4hander@gmail.com](mailto:4hander@gmail.com) to reserve space. The pictures for the ads are now due Friday, January 15th and the final payment is still February 1st. Thank you for your time, and on behalf of the Stetson, it's staff, and the seniors, we thank you for your support

### **Get Connected**

- [www.LasaOnline.org](http://www.LasaOnline.org) is the parent run website that has Lots of LASA archived, a list of teacher's e-mails and phone numbers in the directory (top right) and much, much more!
- **PTSA Jaguar Tracks E-newsletter** Send a blank email to [PTSA-News-subscribe@lbjpts.org](mailto:PTSA-News-subscribe@lbjpts.org)
- **PFLASA Yahoo Group (Parents and Friends of LASA)** Send a blank email to [pflasa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:pflasa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). (Note: This is an Announce-only list)
- **Class of 2010 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to [lbjlasa2010-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lbjlasa2010-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).
- **Class of 2011 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to [lbjlasa2011-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lbjlasa2011-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).
- **Class of 2012 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to [lbjlasa2012-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lbjlasa2012-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).
- **Class of 2013 Yahoo Group** Send a blank email to [lbjlasa2013-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lbjlasa2013-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact PFLASA co-chairs Sharon Dunn at [sadunn15@gmail.com](mailto:sadunn15@gmail.com) or Ana Irizarry at [atirizarry2@gmail.com](mailto:atirizarry2@gmail.com)

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