



LEANDER ISD
LEADING TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

Weekly Insider

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APPLAUSE

Board of Trustees Honors National Merit Semifinalists

On Thursday, Oct. 1, the LISD Board of Trustees recognized the district's 30 National Merit Semifinalists. [See photos.](#)



Vandegrift High School Seeks Authorization for the IB Diploma Programme

Leander ISD's Vandegrift High School has begun the process seeking authorization for the prestigious International Baccalaureate® (IB) Programme. Upon completion of the authorization process, Vandegrift High School may become a member of an ever-growing global community of IB World Schools and offer the distinguished IB Diploma Programme. Current eighth-grade students will be the first class eligible for the Diploma Programme at Vandegrift HS. [Read more.](#)

JROTC Program Earns Accolades at Competition

The Leander High School Air Force JROTC competed this past weekend at the second annual Hill Country JROTC Drill Challenge. Three drill teams, comprised of 28 cadets, received medals at the event. In the Unarmed Drill category, the team commanded by Miranda Habrecht took home top honors, while the team commanded by Kaylin Kellert finished in third place. The Armed Drill team commanded by Ian Schoeplein also executed a flawless routine and won first place. These teams earned top school honors in the combined inspection phase. LISD is proud of these students!



Parkside Elementary held a kick-off celebration for its Parkside Scholar Traits! Special thanks to the Florence W. Stiles Middle School band, dance and cheer teams for helping students review the 12 traits!

NEWS AND INFORMATION

School Holiday, Monday, Oct. 12

Monday, Oct. 12 is a student holiday/staff development day in LISD. We'll see you back for another exciting day of learning on Tuesday, Oct. 13. [Download the LISD calendar.](#)

Adult Meal Price Increase Effective Sept. 21

Leander ISD updated the meal prices for adult meals for the 2015-16 school year. As of Monday, Sept. 21, the adult meal prices are \$3.50 for elementary and \$3.75 for secondary. In accordance with federal regulations, school districts are required to charge a meal price to adults that exceeds the price of the highest paid student meal plus the additional federal reimbursement rates.

LISD Reminds Families that **Missing School Matters**

Student absenteeism is a concern for school districts statewide, including LISD. It is estimated that Central Texas students are absent 2.4 million days of school. All absences, whether excused or unexcused, are a lost opportunity to learn. Families can help reinforce the value of education by keeping a few things in mind:

- Don't make others sick. If your child is ill, he or she should stay home.
- Try to schedule appointments when they are least disruptive to learning.
- If your child must miss school for a medical appointment, get a note from his or her doctor.
- Use the LISD calendar, available at www.leanderisd.org, to plan trips and vacations to line up with school holidays.
- Remember that every absence is a lost opportunity to learn.
- Absences cost your child's school about \$40 per day (per absent student) in state funding.
- Make school a family priority.

Spanish Poetry Festival - Nov. 14

LISD's Dual Language Department is hosting the third Annual Spanish Poetry Festival on Saturday, Nov. 14 at Reed Elementary. The festival is open to all LISD students who wish to recite poetry in Spanish, as native speakers or learners of Spanish. [More information about the event.](#)

Update Your Child's Emergency Contact Information through txConnect

Did you know that all essential paperwork is now online? Please visit [txConnect online](#) to complete critical information about your child. In case of an emergency, LISD uses the information in txConnect to contact parents and guardians, so be sure your phone numbers are correct.



COLLEGE AND CAREER INFORMATION

[Mark Your Calendar - LISD College Fair is October 21](#)

All LISD students are encouraged to attend the [LISD College Fair](#) on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, from 6-8 p.m. at Vista Ridge High School (200 S. Vista Ridge Blvd. in Cedar Park). Learn more about admissions, financial aid and scholarships from 125 four-year and two-year colleges and universities, trade schools, technical programs and the armed services. Registration is easy! Go to [gotocollegefairs.org](#) and choose TACRAO to streamline your college fair experience. Once you have received your unique barcode, you will be able to easily provide your information to representatives.

LISD Students to Take PSAT on Oct. 14

On Wednesday, Oct. 14, all LISD eighth- and ninth-grade students will take the PSAT 8/9 and all 10th- and 11th-grade students will take the PSAT/NMSQT during the school day. These tests measure skills in reading, math, writing and language. [Students are advised to check out the PSAT resources on the CCR website.](#)

Earn College Hours through ACC

Austin Community College's spring semester registration opens in early November for returning and new students. If you are interested in earning college credit while in high school, contact your campus Transition Coordinator for details.



FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

2015 LEEF Mudstacle - Saturday, Oct. 17!

LEEF's annual Mudstacle will be muddier than ever and feature new surprises.

Register early to get the best rate and select your elementary school PTA or middle/high school team to help them win a cash prize. If you don't find your team in the search database, email LEEF at info@leanderedfound.org so they can add it. *Ready to get muddy?!*

<http://leanderedfound.org/>



 **SUPERINTENDENT'S COLUMN**

LISD Superintendent Bret Champion addresses how the PSAT helps prepare students for college opportunities. [Read more...](#)

[Dr. Champion's Latest Webcast](#)

View Dr. Champion's webcast where he addresses updates from the 84th Legislative Session.



 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

October	
12	Staff Development/Student Holiday
14	PSAT Testing
15	LISD Board Meeting, Support Services, 6:15 p.m.
17	LEEF Mudstacle Family 5K Adventure Run
21	LISD College Fair, VRHS, 6-8 p.m.
22	LISD Board Retreat, Support Services, 6:15 p.m.
28	Early Release
29	Coffee with the Board, CPMS, 8:30-10 a.m.
November	
5	LISD Board Meeting, Support Services, 6:15 p.m.
19	LISD Board Meeting, Support Services, 6:15 p.m.

23-27

School Holiday