



# THE PTSA NEWSLETTER

Langley High School

October 2009

## Contents

Principal's Message .....	1
Co-Presidents' Message .....	2
<b>PTSA COMMITTEES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Outstanding Teacher Award ....	3
Curriculum and Education .....	3
Family Network .....	3
Fine and Performing Arts .....	3
Hospitality .....	3
Membership .....	4
Professional Development Fund .....	4
Reflections .....	5
<b>CLASS NEWS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Class of 2013 (Freshmen) .....	5
Class of 2012 (Sophomores) ...	5
Class of 2011 (Juniors) .....	6
Class of 2010 (Seniors) .....	6
All Night Grad Party .....	7
<b>COUNSELING CONNECTION .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Testing .....	7
<b>DEPARTMENT NEWS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Performing Arts .....	7
<b>SPORTS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
Boosters .....	8
Cheerleading .....	8
Crew .....	8
Cross Country .....	9
Dance .....	9
Field Hockey .....	9
Football .....	9
Boys Golf .....	9
Girls Golf .....	9
Volleyball .....	9
Winter Sports Outlook .....	10
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
Capitol Steps .....	10
Halloween Candy Sale .....	10
Paying for College Workshop... ..	10
Diet & Nutrition Program .....	10
College Tours/Study Skills .....	10
<b>CALENDAR .....</b>	<b>11</b>

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we approach the Homecoming season, Langley is all abuzz with goings on and plans for a spirited week. I am so proud of the SGA and the class officers for their planning efforts. It has been difficult for them trying to balance between the *Saxon Unity* theme and what was formerly known as *Color Day*. Nevertheless, they have acted admirably trying to win support for the increased number of activities and the general philosophy of Langley Saxons United.

This is the first year with this many activities planned for Homecoming Week. We are not sure how it will turn out. We will do everything we can to support the SGA to make it successful. I ask for your support and positive wishes as we attempt to expand upon Langley spirit. They have added a powder puff football game, a carnival and a tailgate party to the week. There will be a host of lunchtime activities and dress-up days to generate enthusiasm. They are doing a great job! I look forward to celebrating this week with all our students.

Please encourage your kids to participate in Spirit Week. On Thursday and Friday, classes will end early so activities can begin. These activities are part of the school day and all students are expected to remain on campus at least until the busses depart. Students will be turned back to campus if they try to leave, but we hope most will want to stay. Thank you in advance for supporting us.

As we move to new traditions, old ones may die hard and rumors rule the day. One rumor is that a few students may "Color" the neighborhoods in retaliation to change. I am confident that Langley students will respond positively as we counsel them to be responsible and respectful. For the safety of everyone, please know where your children are and if you see suspicious activity call the non-emergency police dispatch number, 703-691-2131.

Another rumor is that I will be issuing rampant suspensions if students participate in prohibited Color Day activities. While suspensions are possible if students assault others or damage school or community property, these days are just like any other days of the year and we have created no extra rules or consequences. Everything students need to know is in their Student's Responsibilities and Rights booklet. Once again, I am confident we will have a positive week.

On the academic side of things, we are progressing very well with Saxon Time. Early reports from students and teachers are that they enjoy the extra flexible time. Whether or not it will result in increased understanding, lower stress, or higher test scores

remains to be seen. However, we will gather data as we progress. We will also make adjustments and modifications as necessary to accommodate student needs.

I want to thank the community for their patience as we adjusted student schedules this year. We are still looking at a rather large waiting list of students who have requested changes. However, we have decreased that number significantly since the opening of school. Our master schedule remains very full, although the previous "gridlock" is easing a little. Families are reminded that students wishing to change schedules must go through a process that ensures we have all the facts prior to making a decision in the best interest of the student. If classes are closed, doing what is in the student's best interest is difficult. Thank you for your continued patience.

Making schedule changes will be even more difficult next year. With another looming budget shortfall and pupil-teacher ratios projected to increase yet again, something has to be sacrificed. We have reached the limit of how many students we can pack into our core classes. Therefore, we will have to look very hard at what electives can be cut. It becomes essential that students know what they want or should be taking the next school year. In the meantime, we will have fun learning and living here at Langley. I hope this year's festivities will bring an invigorated spirit to our community and students enjoy a safe and happy Homecoming!

Thank you for your time.

*Matt Ragone, 703-287-2704, Matt.Ragone@fcps.edu*

[Back to Top](#)

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS**

As we settle into the 2009-2010 school year, once again we thank our extraordinary community of parents, faculty, staff and students at Langley. The opening of school went smoothly because of everyone's willingness to step up and help out when necessary. Beginning a new tradition, the freshman and new student orientation was held during the day with a spirited welcome by the band, dance team and cheerleaders. The students were given their 2013 t-shirts. After their tour of the school they had an ice cream social and received their much-awaited class schedules.

We hope you had a chance to attend the coffees and dinners arranged by our class parents. Check the calendar on the school website [www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS](http://www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS) to find dates for future class coffees and other information about the school year. The first principal's coffee will be Wednesday, October 28, 9:15 am, in the auditorium.

If you have questions about Langley, most answers can be found on the school and PTSA websites. At your fingertips are bell schedules, calendars, daily announcements, athletics, teacher contact information and many other helpful links which are regularly updated.

By now, you should be receiving a weekly Keep in Touch (KIT) message via email. The KIT system uses students' registration information. You were automatically registered for KIT when you returned your child's emergency care form to the school.

You can keep up with your student's homework and assignments by creating a Parent View Blackboard account. Go to <http://fcps.blackboard.com>. Log on using:

Username:parentreg

Password:newuser

Click "Login". This gives you access to the FCPS 24-7 parent portal registration module. To register, follow the onscreen instructions. You will be given a unique key code, which you need to bring to the front office along with your driver's license or other valid picture ID to complete the registration process.

Finally, Homecoming festivities will be held October 13-16, culminating with the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 17. We hope that all students will participate responsibly and have a lot of fun. Please take the time to communicate with other parents/guardians when your child is making plans for after-school and weekend activities. Thank you for caring about the well-being of our students.

*You know your children are growing up when they stop asking about where they came from and refuse to tell you where they are going. ~ P.J. O'Rourke*

*Andrea Sotter, 703-356-2488, andrea4@cox.net  
Stacey Wood, 703-757-4412, woodsgf@aol.com*

[Back to Top](#)

# PTSA Committees

## AGNES MEYER OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

Quality education is essential to the well-being of our society, and good teachers are the foundation of our educational system. The Washington Post Company Educational Foundation established the Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Awards to recognize teachers who exemplify excellence in their profession. Each year, one outstanding teacher in each of the 19 local public school systems is awarded \$3,000. Langley High School submits a nominee each year. The nominee must have completed 5 years of teaching in FCPS.

Nominees are teachers who:

- Instill in students a desire to learn and achieve.
- Understand the individual needs of students, encourage their talents and foster their self-esteem.
- Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of subject matter and the ability to share it effectively with students.
- Foster cooperative relationships with their colleagues and the community.
- Demonstrate outstanding leadership.

To nominate a teacher for this honor, please fill out a short nomination form available at our PTSA website [www.langleyptsa.org](http://www.langleyptsa.org) or the school website [www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS](http://www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS) and email it to Laura Mendelsohn, [smendelsohn@cox.net](mailto:smendelsohn@cox.net). Nominations are due Oct 24.

[Back to Top](#)

## CURRICULUM AND EDUCATION

The committee is open to all Langley parents and meets approximately six times during the school year. We are fortunate to have administrators and faculty attend periodic meetings to speak about specific issues and exchange valuable information. The first committee meeting will be Fri, Oct 9, 9 am in the PTSA conference trailer. A huge welcome back to our existing committee members, and we encourage anyone interested in joining us to contact one of the co-chairs.

*Jamie Kody, [kody@tidalwave.net](mailto:kody@tidalwave.net)  
Carolyn Bremer, [carolynb894@gmail.com](mailto:carolynb894@gmail.com)*

## FAMILY NETWORK

The committee will present a gap year panel on Wed, Oct 21, 7 pm in the auditorium. Moderated by Betty Schneider of Langley's Career and College Center, the panel will consist of Lucy M., a JMU student who took a diverse gap year in 2007; Mike S., a parent of a University of Wisconsin student who completed a gap year in 2005; Erick Sanchez of Americorps, which provides state and national volunteer service opportunities; and Holly Bull, President of the Center for Interim Programs in Princeton, NJ, an organization which matches students with gap year experiences. This presentation is intended for both parents and students. Holly Bull will also be available the following day (Thu, Oct 22) during Saxon Time to answer any additional student questions.

We are looking for volunteers to help plan, set up, and organize speakers and events to educate parents and students about issues affecting high school students. This year's topics will include underage drinking, decision making, stress and ethics. Programs will be held during the day. We are having our first committee meeting on Wed, Oct 21, 9:30 am and would love to have you join us! If you are interested, please contact Mary Monferdini, [garrett649@aol.com](mailto:garrett649@aol.com), or Betsy Shomaker, [shomaker.jb@verizon.net](mailto:shomaker.jb@verizon.net).

[Back to Top](#)

## FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Many thanks to all the parents who have generously contributed to the Fine and Performing Arts Society. We appreciate your support. Your monies will be spent this year so we can enjoy high-quality arts programs at Langley. Students in the Fine Arts, Music and Drama are busy preparing for fabulous fall performances and exhibits. Your contributions will help make these events extra special. If you still would like to contribute, it is not too late to send in your tax-deductible donation. Just send your check and donation form in an envelope marked FAPAS to the office. Forms can be found on the PTSA website under forms. Thank you for your support of the arts at Langley! If you have any questions, please contact SueAnn Morabito, [rs4mor@verizon.net](mailto:rs4mor@verizon.net), or Heide Zufall, [Heide@Zufall.com](mailto:Heide@Zufall.com).

## HOSPITALITY

The committee will host a *Mexican Fiesta* luncheon for the faculty and staff on Fri, Oct 23 between 11 am and 1:15 pm. We would greatly appreciate donations of salads, Tex Mex dip and bite-sized desserts. Donations can be

dropped off in the main office before 9:30 am on Fri, Oct 23. To donate and for suggested recipes, contact Michelle Dymont Fanning, [thedymonts@aol.com](mailto:thedymonts@aol.com). Thank you!

We would like to thank the following sophomore parents for their contribution of delicious breads and muffins for our teachers' welcome breakfast on Aug 31: Karin Gallo, Carolyn Bremer, Cynthia Cross, Karen Dodd, Debra Stuhlmuller, Lily Braselton, Kamla Branche, Mary Monferdini and Judi Alexander.

## MEMBERSHIP

The committee would like to thank the wonderful parents, students and faculty who have joined the PTSA this year. So far we have more than 800 members and we look forward to reaching our goal of 100% participation. PTSA funds are used to support students and teachers with field trips, cultural enrichment, academic awards and family network programs as well as provide the directory/handbook. It's not too late to join the PTSA. If you don't have a form you can download it from [www.LangleyPTSA.org](http://www.LangleyPTSA.org) and send it with your check to the school office or LHS PTSA, c/o Tracey Liberson, 207 Carrwood Rd, Great Falls, VA 22066. Thank you for supporting the PTSA!

*Gail Welch, [gailwelch@hotmail.com](mailto:gailwelch@hotmail.com)*

*Tracey Liberson, [TNL583@aol.com](mailto:TNL583@aol.com)*

[Back to Top](#)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The PTSA along with the teachers and administrators would like to thank our generous community for the tremendous response we have had for the Professional Development Fund. We have already started processing applications from teachers. If you have not had an opportunity to contribute to this important fund, there is still time; please consider doing so. Send contributions to LHS PTSA - PDF, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. Make checks payable to LHS PTSA with PDF on the memo line.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following parents for their generous contributions:

Dick and Bonnie Patterson, Dan and Susan Dooley, Lisa and Alan Zuccari, Shelley Digiammarino, Diane Scharfen, Pattie and David Gunter, Deena Douglas, Paul and Janet Jameson, Carol and Steve McGarry, Mark and Jamie Stevens, Jeffrey and Suzie Grieco, Daniel Schwed and Barbara Baffer, Mark and Lynne Vasiliadis, Hronn and Cenana Pulak, David Cole and Patricia Scott, Linda and Neal Abravanel, Judy and Soc Verses, Mike and Susan Gimbert, Carin Gendell and Steve Benjamin, Joseph Jeu, Leonard and Patricia Pick, Suzanne and Christopher Purdy, Ellen and Mark Dizio, Kathy and Joe Barton, Maureen and Andy Storch, Michelle Roscitt, Kim and David Truitt, Elizabeth Marinescu, Murali and Anne Makam, Donna and Mitch Kiffe, Jan and Jim Rossberg, Robert and Susan Morabito, Eric Burger and Deborah Spear, Linda and Jim Gallagher, Hassan and Vivek Ashok, Patti Burquest and Richard Fultz, Natalie and Chad MacDonald, Wendy Mueller, Jeff and Insun Hofgard, Susan and Marvin Moser, Jennifer Trainor, Brian and Leslie Anderson, Joe and Linda Zuccari, Jim and Virginia Kennedy, Greg and Tiffany Frazier, Stella Hetelekidis and Mark Johnston, David and Heide Zufall, Sharmishta Erabelli, Gail and Mark Welch, Patricia Oleniacz, Carol and Ed Walter, Jennifer and Fred Levy, Robert Rosenberg and Mary Ann Kennedy, The Hartnett Family, Carol Lee and Jerry Weiss, Viji Rudraraju, Una Higgins, Therese Legallo, Michelle Dymont Fanning and Tom Fanning, John and Cindy Lund, Glen and Hayley Sterling, Dan and Amy Lundeen, Ron and Lisa Hodge, Elizabeth and Thomas Roesel, Bill and Nancy Waugh, Caran and Chris McKee, Robert and Sigrud Calandra, Linda and Brad Nims, Robert Palmer and Theresa Gabaldon, Dennis and Tracey Liberson, Mary Hisey, Janet and Mike McCarty, Joe Francis, Michela and Dan Gorham, Tulin and Van Pulley, Theresa and Brad Wilk, Carrie Clark and Claude Andersen, Virginia and Jon Shames, Donna Hoffman, Mark and Karin Brown, James Braselton, Bill and Sallie Larsen, John and Nikki Ryan, Bill and Jamie Ohriner, Charles Bremer, Cynthia Drabek and Paul Pillar, Ann and Frank Winston, Pamela and Michael Deese, Julie and Kurt Hohl, Elizabeth Flaherty, Richard Swomley, Beth Harkaway and Henry Kleinknecht, Linda and John Darocha, Lily Richardson, Bernard and Valerie Sasser, Cynthia and Delain Gray, Maryam Baradari, Maria and Tom Dailey, Cirrelda Cooper and Frank Berkowitz, Ronni and Rob Jolles, Harry Kay and Joann Toth L. Lesser Jr., David and Angie Officer, Ginger and Martin Webber, Shelly Desbois, Keith and Marjorie Swirsky, Meera and Dinesh Mehta, Don and Stacey Wood, Heidi and Pat Dulany, John and June Tangney, Stephanie and Wendall Sissler, Cara Noland and Patrick Truex, Tina and Bob Blessing, George and Kamla Branche, Kerri Houston Toloczko, Ali and Silvia Tabassi, John and Celine Callanhan, Elaine Varner and Bill Woodford, Jim and Debbie Volpicelli, Cindy Pivik, Larry and Carol Zmuda, Athur Simonetti, Stu and Gina Solomon, Scott and Susan Stewart, The Cintron Family, A.Mark and Leslie N. Christopher, Harry Chernoff, Cem Akkaymak, Peter and Susan Jackson, Mehri Kazerooni, Jeanne and Dmitry Shklyar, Marcia Dush and Mark Doherty, Emery and Patricia Kobor, Jack and Claudette Gerard, Sarah and Patrick Kearney, Rachel Small, Greg and Joann Durig, Paige Louthan, Robin and John Kealey, Apolinar and Corazon Atenza, Christopher Clubb, June Fox and John Canning, Woody and Maria Endres.

*Leslie Anderson, 703-757-6601, [lkaleslie@aol.com](mailto:lkaleslie@aol.com)*

*Insun Hofgard, 703-759-7877, [jhofgard@aol.com](mailto:jhofgard@aol.com)*

## REFLECTIONS

Are you working on your entries for this year's Reflections program? If so, that's great! If not, you still have time. This year's theme is *Beauty is....* Get started now and submit your entries by Thu, Oct 15 to the main office. For further information and entry forms, please contact Alexandra Bechter, cfs234@gmail.com or 703-992-9612.

[Back to Top](#)

## Class News

### CLASS OF 2013 (Freshmen)

Thank you to all the parents and freshmen who helped the Class of 2013 have a fun and smooth transition into Langley. We started the year with freshman orientation. Our students came in droves and were eager to walk the halls of Langley and see their class schedules. The students were excited to find out which friends were in their classes. There was much laughter and excitement in the building that day. Thank you to all the parents who helped organize this event and to those who scooped ice cream. You made the Class of 2013's very first experience at Langley a memorable one.

At our first parent coffee, we met administrators and staff members and got a chance to meet some new parents, set up carpools, and generally set our minds at ease about sending our children off to high school. We held our first class fundraiser, the freshman dinner. This event was well-attended and a good time was had by all. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make the evening happen.

The month ended with the election of the class officers and SGA representatives. Congratulations to President Alex Park, Vice President Lucy Gunter, Secretary Natalie Rasmus, Treasurer Charlee Vasiliadis, SGA Reps Hayley Soutter and Brooke Wingo.

Finally, it's not too late to turn in your class dues of \$35. This includes a freshman class t-shirt to wear Fri, Oct 16 during Homecoming Week. Please mail your class dues to Gail Welch, 6621 Jill Court, McLean, VA 22101.

The ACT Explore test is Wed, Oct 14, 7:20 am. The cost is \$17 - make your checks payable to Langley High School. Please note there is no delayed opening and dismissal will be at 12:10 pm.

*Freshman Class Parents*

[Back to Top](#)

### CLASS OF 2012 (Sophomores)

Sophomore year is off to a great start! Thank you to everyone for supporting the Class of 2012 by attending the class dinner, offering to volunteer and sending in your dues and donations.

Sophomores will take the PSAT on Wed, Oct 14. There will be no delayed opening that morning – school will start at 7:20 am – and dismissal will be early, at 12:10 pm.

Homecoming Week is Oct 13-16. Class t-shirts will be distributed during lunch that week. Please remind your student to go to the t-shirt tables to pick up his/her shirt. These shirts are included as part of the class dues, so you will need to have paid in order for your sophomore to get his/her t-shirt. All students wear their class t-shirts on Friday, the day of the pep rally. The Homecoming football game against TJ is Fri, 7:30 pm and the Homecoming Dance is Sat, 8:30 pm in the gym.

Please note that the parent program about teen driving that we mentioned in September's newsletter will not be held until January. We will send out a separate notice about the program to all sophomore parents in a few months.

If you haven't yet done so, please send in your class form and dues. They are yellow forms with a white envelope attached that were in the back-to-school packet. Include your email address so that we can send you Class of 2012 emails throughout the year.

To keep up with all of the activities at Langley, check the calendar on the school website [www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS](http://www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS). Please contact us with any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Thank you for your involvement!

*Sophomore Class Parents*

[Back to Top](#)

### **CLASS OF 2011 (Juniors)**

We'd like to thank all those who attended our class dinner. We had a good turnout with 300 tickets sold, enjoyed Chinese food and met our class officers!

Come meet your child's teachers at Back-to-School Night Wed, Oct 7, 7 pm. There is a new format this year. Bring a copy of your student's schedule and go directly to the first period class. This is a great opportunity to get a flavor for your child's school day.

The first principal's coffee will be Wed Oct 28, 9:15 am, in the auditorium. This is open to all parents and the agenda is set by the principal.

The class t-shirt will be distributed during Homecoming Week and worn on Fri, Oct 16. The shirts for all classes will be the same color this year and the logo on the back will be the same for the entire school. Each class will have a unique design on the front. The Homecoming football game will be Fri, 7:30 pm vs. TJ. All are invited! The Homecoming Dance is Sat, 8:30-11 pm, in the gym. Tickets will not be available at the door and will be sold at lunch during Homecoming Week.

Juniors will take the PSAT on Wed, Oct 14. School will start at 7:20 am that day and will be dismissed at 12:10 pm. All junior's tests will be submitted to the National Merit Scholarship Program, but to receive a copy of your student's score you need to have paid. Questions? Read the Testing section on page 7 of this newsletter. For more information, call Jan Dabroski, 703-287-2922.

Come hear a panel discuss the benefits of students taking a gap year between high school and college on Wed, Oct 21, 7-9 pm, in the auditorium. Holly Bull from the Center for Interim Programs, a representative from Americorps, and a James Madison student who took a gap year will be included on the panel. This program is sponsored by the family network committee. For more details, see the Family Network news on page 3 of this newsletter.

You should be receiving class update emails from the class parents. If you have not been receiving them please let us know at [LangleyHS2011@gmail.com](mailto:LangleyHS2011@gmail.com) and we will add you to the list.

Also please send your photos of any Class of 2011 events to [Lhsphotos2011@gmail.com](mailto:Lhsphotos2011@gmail.com). These will be used to create a memory CD for the Class of 2011!

*Junior Class Parents*

[Back to Top](#)

### **CLASS OF 2010 (Seniors)**

We are well on our way to *Earning Our Wings* countdown, Graduation 2010! A wonderful class dinner was enjoyed by many, thanks to the efforts of chairs Michele Petersen and Diane Robie with the welcoming ambiance staged by Kelly Ghaisar. Immediately following, a very informative college night program was presented by Cynthia Meade, Betty Schneider and all the counselors.

Back-to-School Night is Oct 7, 7 pm. There is a new format this year. Bring a copy of your student's schedule and go directly to the first period class. This is a great opportunity to get a flavor for your child's school day.

Many thanks to the large majority who have been prompt paying your class dues. As you know, dues are necessary this year to fund all the senior activities. Payment is a prerequisite for attending the class trip to ESPN Zone on Wed, Oct 14 (watch for permission forms!). If you have not paid, please send your \$170 check, made out to LHS, Class of 2010. Please send it ASAP. Any questions can be directed to Luann Levitt, [langley2010@gmail.com](mailto:langley2010@gmail.com).

Homecoming t-shirts and spirit wear will be available for pick-up during lunches on Tue, Oct 13 and Thu, Oct 15. Make sure your student wears their Homecoming t-shirt on Fri, Oct 16, for the fall picnic, panoramic photo, and school-wide pep rally.

Senior spirit wear is the perfect holiday gift for your senior and their family members. The Senior spirit wear sale was such a tremendous success that we are opening up the sale once more in November. Order forms are available online at the PTSA website under "Class of 2010" and will also be available in the front office in November. Delivery of items will be before winter break in the cafeteria. Contact [karinbrown@cox.net](mailto:karinbrown@cox.net) if you need special pick-up arrangements for gifts or if you have any questions.

The Senior Class plans and sponsors the Homecoming Dance on Sat, Oct 17, 8:30-11 pm. Tickets are \$20 each and sales start on Thu, Oct 8, in the cafeteria. Please contact Langley2010@gmail.com if you can help.

Fairfax County Public Schools high school students and their families are encouraged to attend the following two events to explore postgraduation educational opportunities:

\* College Fair 2009 at Fair Oaks Mall, Sun, Oct 18, 7:30-9:30 pm (Note: Free ticket required for admission.)

\* College Night 2009 at Hayfield Secondary School, Mon, Oct 19, 7-9 pm

For more information, links to participating colleges' websites, or a College Fair ticket, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/FCPSCollegeFairNight/>.

Photos, photos, photos! Keep them coming to Mollie Vardell, molliev@verizon.net, for the end-of-year show. More information can be obtained under class news on the Langley PTSA website.

Our next class coffee is Nov 4, 9:30 am, in the auditorium. Diane Eckert is the Prevention Specialist for FCPS who will join us for a presentation on the Fairfax County Youth Survey.

*Senior Class Parents*

### **ALL NIGHT GRAD PARTY**

*Don't miss the fun, sign up now!!* If you've lost your form, you can find it on the PTSA website. Go to Class News - and then pick the ANGP tab. Completed forms and \$45 check can be turned in to the front office or mailed to Becky Flitcroft at the address on the flyer. Questions, contact Lisa Walsh, lisawalsh@mindspring.com, or Joanna Ehat, jehat@cox.net.

[Back to Top](#)

## **Counseling Connection**

### **Testing**

#### **ACT EXPLORE AND PSAT**

All 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students should report to school on Wed, Oct 14, 7:20 am for ACT Explore/PSAT testing. They should bring #2 pencils (not mechanical) and a calculator. Students will be released at 12:10 pm.

Tenth and eleventh grade students will take the PSAT. FCPS pays to score the results for all sophomores; it is not necessary to register your sophomore. Juniors must pay to get their results scored and returned. The payment form for juniors is on the PTSA website under the Class of 2011 and will be available at Back-to-School-Night, Oct 7. Cost for the test is \$17. Checks should be made payable to Langley High School and returned to the front office, attention Assessment Coach; please put your child's legal name and grade 11 on the memo line. A list of students from whom we have received payment will be posted at Back-to-School Night. Since this score is used for the National Merit Scholarship program, Langley will submit answer sheets for all juniors taking the test that day. However, you will not receive your score unless you pay the fee.

Ninth grade students will take the ACT Explore test. This test is specifically normed for ninth graders and will provide a practice opportunity for the ACT test. The payment form for freshmen is on the PTSA website under the Class of 2013. Cost for the test is \$17. Checks should be made payable to Langley High School and returned to the front office, attention Assessment Coach; please put your child's legal name and grade 9 on the memo line.

[Back to Top](#)

## **Department News**

Department chairs have decided that relevant department news will be posted directly to the school website rather than in the PTSA newsletter.

### **PERFORMING ARTS**

**Choral:** The department will hold a car wash fundraiser Sat, Oct 17, 9 am - 3 pm at the Great Falls Exxon located at the corner of Georgetown Pike and Walker Road. Students from all of the choirs will participate in this fundraising effort and the proceeds go directly to support choral activities and performance needs. Please come to the car wash and make a generous contribution to benefit the department.

The choirs will perform a fall concert on Tue, Oct 20, 7:30 pm, in the auditorium. Everyone is welcome to attend and there is no admission charge. Come enjoy the singing in this debut performance of 2009-2010.

The Choral Guild will begin its annual evergreen fundraiser in mid-October. Please think of your holiday needs, as well as your gift list, when choral students contact you. Our direct delivery option is such a thoughtful gift idea for out-of-town friends and family. We sell wreaths, garlands, centerpieces, door swags and more. Each item is guaranteed to be fresh, fragrant and hearty! Your items will arrive during the first week of December. Proceeds will help choir students fund their trip to the Heritage Choral Festival in San Antonio, TX this spring. So please brighten up your door and home with Langley choir evergreens! Please contact any choral student to see the brochure or contact our coordinator, Betsy Hubbell, 703-450-5329 or famhubbell@aol.com.

[Back to Top](#)

**Drama:** Congratulations to our 2009-2010 Theatre Honor Society officers: President Kate DaRocha, Vice-President Janie Yurechko, Secretary Hayley Mueller, Treasurer Wes Brandt, Historian Grace Worm.

The Theatre Honor Society is holding a car wash fundraiser on Sat, Oct 10, 9 am – 3 pm at the Great Falls Exxon. Please stop by and make a contribution! Fundraising goals for this year include a sound system for the Theatre Arts Lab, a new video camera for the video broadcast class, and set construction materials/accessories for this year's productions.

Congratulations are also due to our Cappies critics for the 2009-2010 season: Emily Mannon and Janie Yurechko (Co-Lead Critics), Becca Allen, Tess Higgins, Brian Patterson and Lauren Stewart.

We are incredibly excited to announce that our musical for 2009, *Time's Square 2090*, is an *original* work by LHS senior Wes Brandt. Wes has created a futuristic dystopia, much like the worlds of *V for Vendetta* or *1984* in which the government has complete control over its citizens, only this time it happens in America. The students are really excited about performing this original show. The music includes many styles: a big band number, a blues song, a gentle duet, a techno dance, and some rapping mixed into the powerful rock. With this debut Langley will make Cappies history. This is the first musical entry that is an original show written and composed by a FCPS student. Congratulations to Wes, the cast and crew for being part of this show!

Theatre and orchestra students are combining their talents for a Tiny Tots Concert, Oct 22. Under the direction of Phyliss Jaffe and Scott McCormick, the concert will be an extravaganza of Disney characters and music, presented to early-elementary students.

New this year, a trip to London is planned March 24 – April 1. Highlights include performances, Globe Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Company, BBC, workshops and backstage tours. We will also visit Oxford University, Stonehenge and Bath. Sign up now!! Deadline is Oct 29

Saxon Stage On Cue (SSOC) is an organization of parents dedicated to supporting Theatre Arts at LHS. Our first meeting is Tue, Oct 6, 6 pm. Find out how you can support the Theatre Arts this year! Contact Una Higgins, President, una@cox.net, for more information. Have you registered to receive SSOC news and announcements? Please visit <http://lhssoc.wufoo.com/forms/ssoc-member-entry/>

Visit [www.langleydrama.com](http://www.langleydrama.com) for the latest Saxon Stage news and information.

[Back to Top](#)

## Sports

**BOOSTERS:** Langley Boosters march on and you are invited. To date, 329 LHS families have joined Boosters this school year. We are only \$27,000 short of our membership goal of \$120,000. Please support Langley athletic activities, and if you have not already done so, visit [www.Langleysports.org](http://www.Langleysports.org) for membership applications and boosterwear orders. You can also support specific activities through the ongoing coffee fundraiser. Information and orders are available at [www.fundusnow.com/langleyhs22101](http://www.fundusnow.com/langleyhs22101). Thank you for your support.

**CHEERLEADING:** All three squads are working hard to prepare for football games and competitions. Please come support the varsity cheerleaders at District semis on Oct 20 at South Lakes and finals on Oct 27 at Fairfax. Please visit [Langleysports.org](http://Langleysports.org) to receive updated information.

**CREW:** Come find out more about the sport at our annual Learn to Row/Open Boat House Sun, Oct 25, 12-4 pm, at Sandy Run Regional Park. The fall information meeting for new and returning rowers will be Thu, Nov 5, 7:30-9 pm, in the cafeteria. Winter training for crew starts Nov 16 in the science hall.

Please join us in supporting crew during our first annual *Fall Into Crew Gala and Silent Auction* on Oct 24, 7-11 pm at Meadow Farms Nursery, Reston Parkway & Rt. 7. Tickets are \$25 per person. 50/50 raffle tickets are \$4 each or 3/\$10. All proceeds will go directly to the team to help fund our rowing season. We have lots of fun surprises planned for the evening! Starting at 7 pm there will be a food sampling area where you can try a variety of dishes from several area restaurants. The silent auction will be open from 7-9:30 pm. There will be tons of items to bid on: dinners, spa experiences, rides in exotic cars, large gift baskets. What a great place to get that bargain, and it's never too early to start holiday shopping! To donate an item, contact Lisa Chapman, aug1999@yahoo.com. The live auction is at 9:30, immediately followed by the 50/50 raffle. Come bid on a week at the amazing Grace Bay club resort in Turks and Caicos (usually priced at \$10,000 a week, who knows how low it will go for)? Start buying your 50/50 raffle tickets now to have a chance at the jackpot!! Get your tickets at [www.mycommunitytickets.com](http://www.mycommunitytickets.com). This adult-only event isn't just for crew families; invite friends and neighbors. For more information, contact Lisa Chapman, aug1999@yahoo.com, catch one of the team captains in the hall: Jon Souleles, Will Chaing, Elyse Moy, and Stephanie Plunkett, or go to [www.langleycrew.com](http://www.langleycrew.com).

[Back to Top](#)

**CROSS COUNTRY:** The team is off to a great start, highlighted by the spirited running of our newcomers. Our freshman squads won both the boys and the girls races at the 25-team Monroe Parker Invitational. The boys team finished in 10<sup>th</sup>-place, led by Tommy Bylund, Jake Peker and Michael Meyer. After that race, three freshman girls, Elissa Purdy, Jessica Miles and Courtney West, moved up to the varsity squad and led Langley to a 10<sup>th</sup>-place finish at the 36-team Oatlands Invitational.

The Saxons will run in three more invitationals, gearing up for the Liberty District Championships at Burke Lake Park on Oct 29 and the Northern Region Championships on Nov 5, also at Burke Lake Park.

**DANCE TEAM:** The team would like to welcome its new members, Meg Quinn and Alexis Unwalla. The team is hard at work preparing for the final three home football games including an exciting Homecoming routine that you will not want to miss! Please join me in congratulating the new leaders: Kayla Phillips (Captain), Dani Burger (Co-Captain) and Sophia Vasiliadis (Officer). We look forward to seeing you at the next home game!

[Back to Top](#)

**FIELD HOCKEY:** The team is off to an undefeated start in the district after beating Fairfax 2-1 in the district opener and raising their regular season record to 5-2. We will continue to play district games over the next couple weeks culminating with the Rotary Cup against McLean on Oct 15. Please come support the team as they prepare for their run at a Liberty District crown. The District Tournament begins Oct 19.

**FOOTBALL:** The start of the 2009 season has been tough but the team has greatly improved each week. The Saxons have many first-time starters surrounding the returnees from last year. Everyone on the team is working very hard to overcome early-season mistakes and turn the corner as we head into the second half of the schedule. The remaining five games feature Liberty District contests including cross-town rival McLean in the annual battle for the Rotary Cup.

**BOYS GOLF:** The varsity team finished a successful regular season with a 7-1 match record. In the Liberty District Tournament the Saxons closed with a strong effort that almost caught tournament champion Madison. The Saxons finished second and will move on to the Regional Tournament for the 12th consecutive year. At the District Tournament Sam Walsh shot 72-72 to finish second, Ben Walsh had 77-70 for fourth place. Also scoring for the Saxons were Matt Desalvo, 80-74; Ryan Nunse, 80-77; Joe Simpson, 80-78; Garrett Burke, 80; and Jack Sandusky, 82.

**GIRLS GOLF:** The team is wrapping up a very successful season, heading into its final match with an undefeated 7-0 record. Senior Claire Stevens, freshman Jenny Jeu and juniors Julie and Betsy Abraham have been key contributors for the team this season. All four have qualified for the Oct 8 zone qualifier.

The team played its final regular season match on Sept 29 against Woodson in preparation for qualifying rounds for the zone qualifier on Sept 30 and Oct 5.

[Back to Top](#)

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL:** The teams participated in the Dig Pink Sept 26 celebration to help raise awareness for breast cancer research against top teams Robinson and Heritage. You may still contribute! Please visit our donation page at [https://www.side-out.org/application/teams/team\\_page/1622](https://www.side-out.org/application/teams/team_page/1622). Our remaining home matches

include South Lakes Oct 8, Potomac Falls Oct 19, Maret Oct 27 and McLean Oct 29. Districts begin Nov 2. Seniors Lainey Le Blanc, Carlie Owen and Elysse Richardson will entertain and impress all who attend.

[Back to Top](#)

## Winter Sports Outlook

In order to participate in any winter sport, practice or tryout, each student-athlete must have submitted the revised Virginia High School League physical form dated 4/07 to the Student Activities office. The form can be downloaded from [www.langleysports.org](http://www.langleysports.org) or [www.vhsl.org](http://www.vhsl.org). The physical must be completed on or after May 1, 2009 for the 2009-2010 school year. Please make a copy for your records.

All winter sports coaches will hold a pre-season meeting; please have your child check the announcements on the school TV scroll for date and time. You can also visit [www.langleysports.org](http://www.langleysports.org) for up-to-date information. Questions? Call the Activities office, 703-287-2750.

## Announcements

### CAPITOL STEPS!

Tickets are now on sale for *Capitol Steps*, the popular fundraiser for the Class of 2010 All Night Grad Party. Tickets are \$30 each and the performance will be Sun, Jan 24, 7 pm, in the auditorium. The *Capitol Steps* troupe will present its trademark political satire. It is an opportunity for seniors to gain extra credit while enjoying the show. For tickets or information contact Mollie Vardell, [molliev@verizon.net](mailto:molliev@verizon.net), or Andrea Sotter, [andrea4@cox.net](mailto:andrea4@cox.net), or make check payable to LHS/ANGP and send to Capitol Steps c/o Mollie Vardell, 809 Crews Road, Great Falls, VA 22066. Thank you for supporting the All Night Grad Party.

[Back to Top](#)

### HALLOWEEN CANDY SALE

Support the ANGP and make all those candy lovers at school happy! Purchase Halloween treat bags, either chocolate, fruit-flavored or both! The candy will be distributed during first block on Fri, Oct 30. The order form is at the end of this newsletter and on the PTSA website. Treat bags are \$3 each. Surprise your kids, teachers, counselors, office staff and your kids' friends. Doesn't everyone like a little candy on Halloween? Forms must be mailed by Oct 27. Any questions? Contact Sheila Rieling, [rieling@verizon.net](mailto:rieling@verizon.net). The ANGP committee thanks you.

### PAYING FOR COLLEGE WORKSHOP

Fairfax County Adult and Community Education offers a 2-day workshop on *Little-Known Secrets of Paying for College*. It will be at McLean High School on Oct 20 and 27. For more details and to register, call 703-658-1201.

### DIET AND NUTRITION INFORMATION

McLean High School PTSA presents a program about diet and nutrition on Tue, Oct 27, 7:30 pm in the McLean auditorium. Dana Laake, a licensed nutritionist, author, educator and talk-show host will speak about *Controversies in diet and nutrition: the myths and facts*. For more information, contact MaryAnn Lastova, [last4ever1@verizon.net](mailto:last4ever1@verizon.net).

### COLLEGE TOURS AND WRITING/STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Reston Community Center offers college tours and writing/study skills workshops. For more information, go to [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com).

**November Newsletter deadline:**

**Tuesday, October 27**

To cover dates 11/2/09 through 12/14/09

Editors:

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Calendar:

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[Back to Top](#)

## Calendar for Langley PTSA & Activities, 10/6 – 11/6/09

### October 2009

6 Tue	<b>Saxon Stage on Cue (SSOC)</b> meeting, 6:00 pm, Room 101	20 Tue	<b>Choral fall concert</b> , 7:30 pm, Auditorium
7 Wed	<b>PTSA executive board meeting</b> , 9:30 am, PTSA Conf. Center <b>First quarter interims to students</b> <b>Back-to-school night and PTSA general membership meeting, grades 11 &amp; 12</b> , 7:00 pm	21 Wed	<b>Underclassmen makeup photos</b> (also 22 Thu) <b>ANGP meeting</b> , 9:30 am, PTSA Conference Center <b>Family Network committee meeting</b> , 9:30 am, location tba <b>Family Network</b> presentation on <i>Gap Year Programs</i> , 7:00 pm, Auditorium
9 Fri	<b>Science Honor Society sponsored Blood Drive</b> , 7:15 am – 1:30 pm, Aux. Gym <b>Curriculum &amp; Education committee meeting</b> , 9:00 am, PTSA Conference Center	22 Thu	<b>Tiny Tots concert</b> , during school
10 Sat	<b>SAT at LHS</b> <b>Orchestra fundraiser car wash</b> , 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, McLean BP <b>Theatre Honor Society fundraiser car wash</b> , 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Great Falls Exxon	23 Fri	<b>PTSA Hospitality staff lunch</b>
12 Mon	<b>Columbus Day holiday</b>	24 Sat	<b>Teacher of the Year nomination deadline</b> <b>ACT at LHS</b> <b>“Fall into Crew Gala and Silent Auction”</b> , 7:00 – 11:00 pm, Meadows Farms Nursery (corner of Reston Parkway and Rt. 7)
13 Tue	<b>Homecoming spirit week</b> (through 17 Sat)	25 Sun	<b>Crew: Learn to Row/Open Boat House</b> , 12:00 – 4:00 pm, Sandy Run Regional Park
14 Wed	<b>Regular opening at 7:20 am, early dismissal at 12:10 pm</b> <b>PSAT, grades 10 and 11</b> <b>ACT Explore test, grade 9</b> <b>Senior class field trip</b>	27 Tue	<b>Halloween candy order deadline</b> <b>Newsletter deadline</b> , 3:00 pm <b><i>Controversies in Diet and Nutrition: The Myths &amp; Facts</i></b> , 7:30 pm, McLean High School Auditorium (sponsored by the McLean High School PTSA)
15 Thu	<b>Reflections program submission deadline</b>	28 Wed	<b>Principal's coffee</b> , 9:15 am, Auditorium
16 Fri	<b>Senior picnic</b> <b>Pep rally</b> <b>Homecoming football game vs. TJHSST</b> , 7:30 pm	30 Fri	<b>First grading period ends</b>
17 Sat	<b>Choral fundraiser carwash</b> , 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Great Falls Exxon	<b><u>November 2009</u></b>	
17 Sat	<b>Homecoming dance</b> , Main gym, 8:30 – 11:00 pm	2 Mon/3 Tue	<b>Student holidays/Teacher workdays</b>
18 Sun	<b>Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) College Fair</b> , 7:30 – 9:30 pm, Fair Oaks Mall	4 Wed	<b>Second grading period begins</b> <b>November newsletter posted</b> <b>Senior parent coffee</b> , 9:30 am, Auditorium
19 Mon	<b>FCPS College Night</b> , 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Hayfield SS, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria	5 Thu	<b>PTSA executive board meeting</b> , 7:30 pm, PTSA Conf. Center <b>Crew information meeting</b> , 7:30 pm, Cafeteria
		6 Fri	<b>Case Day</b>

# HALLOWEEN CANDY SALE

## Support the Class of 2010 All Night Grad Party

**Buy your favorite students, teachers,  
or staff members a Halloween Treat**

**Halloween Candy Bags \$3.00 each**  
 Make checks payable to LHS/ANGP 2010  
 Choose between chocolate and fruity candy bags

Mail your orders no later than October 27<sup>th</sup> to Sheila Rieling  
 909 Holly Blossom Ct, Great Falls, VA 22066  
 Additional forms available at [www.langleyptsa.org](http://www.langleyptsa.org)

Treats will be distributed during 1<sup>st</sup> block on  
 Friday, October 30

Questions? Email Sheila at [Rieling@verizon.net](mailto:Rieling@verizon.net)

**Halloween Order Form**

Recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Sender \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Fruity Bags \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Chocolate Bags \_\_\_\_\_

Total Bags Ordered \_\_\_ @ \$3.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Halloween Order Form**

Recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Sender \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Fruity Bags \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Chocolate Bags \_\_\_\_\_

Total Bags Ordered \_\_\_ @ \$3.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_