

May 2022



THE MONTHLY BOBCAT

Langston Hughes Elementary School



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

BY PRINCIPAL JACKIE MICKEL

Class Sections and Multi-Age Classrooms:

As many of you are aware, the board has voted to increase the threshold of students in a classroom to 25 in grades K-3 and 30 in grades 4-5. This decision will affect every elementary school in the district in different ways.

One way that it could affect Langston Hughes is by causing us to explore multi-age classrooms rather than add a section at a grade level when we go over the threshold, as has been past practice. As a staff, we are evaluating and discussing many different options for next school year and hope to be making decisions in the coming weeks. We will be communicating with our families what those decisions are and how they might impact the make-up of our building.

Every student impacts our total enrollment and the number of teachers we are allowed to employ. Students that are not registered can not be counted in our total. If you know of families that are planning to attend next year and have not enrolled, please encourage them to do so immediately. Waiting to make hiring decisions in August is not the best for our students.

Thank you for your understanding and your patience as we work through some of these new challenges. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (jmickel@usd497.org).

CONTENTS

Important Dates and Library Updates - 2
End of Year Info - 3
Talent Show - 4
Art News - 5
Novice Music Summer Program - 6
PTO Updates - 7
Letter to 4th Grade Parents & Clinic Info - 8
Office Info - 9
Lunch and Breakfast - 10

IMPORTANT DATES

May.

5th - 3rd Grade Field Trip

10th - Jog-A-Thon

12th - 2nd Grade Field Trip

13th - Field Day

17th - School-wide Kona Ice Party

20th - Talent Show

23rd - 5th Grade Party

24th - Fifth Grade Promotion

25th - Last Day (dismiss @ noon)

5TH GRADE EVENTS

Monday, May 23 -- 5th Grade Recognition Party at Langston Hughes (11:45 AM - 3 PM)

Tuesday, May 24 -- 5th Grade Recognition Ceremony and Reception at Langston Hughes

- *11:30 AM -- Ceremony in gymnasium (Please note time change!)
- Reception following ceremony in multi-purpose room





YEARBOOKS

If you have not yet ordered a yearbook, this is your last chance!

We have a limited supply of yearbooks available for purchase, first come first serve. Order forms can be found in the office upon request.

Cash and Checks (made out to Langston Hughes PTO) only.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Yearbook Committee at langstonhughesyearbook@gmail.com.

21-22 SCHOOL FEES

Please take a moment and pay your student's 2021-2022 outstanding fees, if you haven't already done so.

Payment is due by **May 26, 2022**, otherwise it will be sent to collection.

Please contact Sandra Sola (ssola@usd497.org) if you have any questions.

Thank you!

LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found is full! If your child is missing their water bottle, coat, hat, or gloves (or anything else), feel free to stop by and look through our Lost and Found.

We are planning to donate all remaining items after May 13th.

TALENT SHOW

It is time for the Langston Hughes Talent Show!

Students in grades 3,4 and 5 are invited to audition. This is optional and students do not have to participate. The audition process is not a competition, but a way to make sure all acts are prepared and appropriate for school.

*Students will need to make a video for their audition.

*The videos need to be sent to Mrs. Robinson's email by Wednesday, May 4.

*The talent show itself will be presented on Friday, May 20 at 1:00 p.m. in the gym or, if covid dictates, smaller live audience or virtual.

Click [the link](#) for the Google Slides to learn more information about the audition process.



We have several students with art displayed at this exhibit! Stop by to see the art Langston Hughes has to offer!



USD 497
STUDENT ART EXHIBITION
and VANGUARD AWARDS

April 29-May 13

 **LAWRENCE**
Public Schools

Final Friday
Opening Reception
& Awards Ceremony
Friday, April 29; 4-8 pm
940 New Hampshire Street

Awards Schedule:
Elementary Emerging Artist Awards, 5:15 pm
Middle School Emerging Artist Awards, 6:15 pm
High School Trailblazer & Vanguard Awards, 7:15 pm

 Scan for additional information or to preregister for the Final Friday Reception

 **lawrenceartscenter**
Art is for everyone.

 **INTRUST**
Bank.

NOVICE MUSIC SUMMER PROGRAM

Hello!

I wanted to share an exciting opportunity for your student this summer- the Novice program is back! The Novice Instrumental Music Exploratory program is a chance for your student to try many orchestral and band instruments before they enter middle school. Students will be introduced to 4 orchestra instruments: violin, viola, cello and bass, and 7 band instruments: flute, clarinet, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, and tuba. This year Novice is open to all current 4th and 5th graders. Novice will be held from June 6th through the 9th. On June 10th there will be an opportunity for parents to conference with the Novice facilitators. You can attend either a morning session (8:30-11:30) or an afternoon session (12:30-3:30). All sessions are held at LHS. If you are interested please enroll using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/jLQaKVQJ9Ney9ndg8>

A few things to note- there is a \$60 fee for Novice however there are scholarships available, just contact your home school's secretary or music teacher for details! If you have already enrolled your 5th grader in their middle school classes you can change their preference after they attend Novice if you choose. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the novice facilitators Emily Boedeker at eboedeke@usd497.org or Amanda Peterson at apeterso@usd497.org.

We hope to see you this summer!

Emily Boedeker, Woodlawn and Cordley Elementary
Amanda Peterson, Southwest Middle School



PTO UPDATES

A HUGE thank you to our Langston community for a wonderful Spring Carnival. We'd like to give a special thank you to volunteers Aaron Boden, Rachel Meier, Caitlin Gough, and Casey Wallace for making this event happen - without them there wouldn't have been a carnival.

2022-23 School Year Directory and Email Sign Up

PTO is bringing back the school directory! To sign up to be included in the fall directory, visit <https://forms.gle/Gcz46qic8pS1o9k97>. You will have the option to receive email updates from PTO and/or to be included in the directory.

Jog-a-thon

We are in the final throes of the school year and we have 1 big event coming up on Tuesday, May 10: Jog-a-thon! This fun event also serves as a fundraiser to help us raise money to expand the outdoor options at the school (i.e. more swings, walking trail, ball field, etc.). We need your help to reach our goal of \$10,000! You can find your student's individual fundraising page at <https://app.99pledges.com/fund/1stannualj>. You can send your child's link to friends and family and share on social media. We will also accept cash and check (payable to Langston Hughes PTO) donations.

If your child asks, we DO have prizes, including raffles and extra recess!

Jog-a-thon Volunteers

We need volunteers to help with Jog-a-thon. Please check out the opportunities and help as you are able.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f49afa62ea1fbc16-lhepto>

Spiritwear Store

Langston Hughes PTO has launched a year round online spiritwear store. You order online anytime and products will be shipped directly to you within days! We have hundreds of products, including shirts, hoodies, pants, shorts, hats, blankets, and bags! Visit [here](#) to see the store.

Stay in the Loop

Sign up for our email alerts and/or follow us on Facebook (or just visit our Facebook page if you don't have a FB account) to stay up to date. www.facebook.com/LangstonHughesElementaryPTO

Questions? Email us at langstonhughespto@gmail.com

LHE PTO Board

Anne Koprince, President

Caitlin Gough and Becca Koester, Co-Vice Presidents

Casey Wallace, Secretary

Kristin Schneller and Cathy Voss, Co-Treasurers

Jackie Mickel, School Principal and board member at large

LETTER TO 4TH GRADE PARENTS

Hello 4th Grade Parents!

We are looking for a few volunteers to help set up and serve refreshments for the upcoming 5th Grade Recognition reception on Tuesday, May 24th. Traditionally 4th grade parents take on this duty so that 5th grade parents can enjoy the event with their students. It's also a great way to see how 5th grade Recognition is set up for those who are interested in helping plan the event for next year's 5th grade class.

This year's recognition ceremony is set for Tuesday, May 24th at 11:30 AM. We will need volunteers to help set out refreshments before the ceremony, serve during the reception, and help with a quick clean up after.

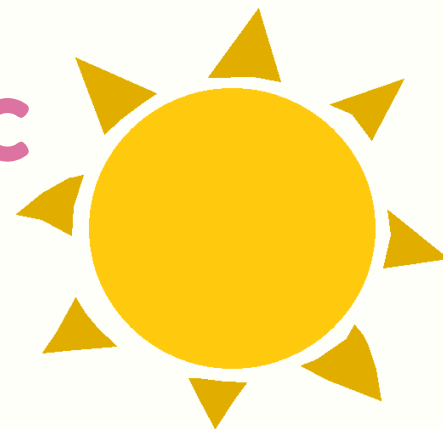
Volunteers can choose a shift 10-11:30 am or 11:15-12:45 pm (or can volunteer from 10-12:45pm).

If you are interested in helping out or have questions, please text, call, or email Amy Weishaar (785-550-2704; amyweishaar@sunflower.com).

Thank you for considering!

--The 2022 Fifth Grade Recognition Committee

FROM THE CLINIC



With warmer weather, students are out in the sun and are exposed to pollens, grass, and insects. Please consider putting sunscreen on your child before school if it's a hot sunny day.

Also, if your student is prone to insect bites or seasonal allergies, you may want to give them an allergy med before school. Using a light insect repellant in the morning may be helpful as well, if your student is sensitive to insect bites.

- Nurse Michelle

BACKPACK NECESSITIES

Change of Clothes

We ask that every child, K-5, have a **change of clothes** in their backpack for emergencies, including lunch spills and playground accidents.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

M, T, Th, F

Arrival

- Students A-L: Arrive between 8:30-8:40am
- Students M-Z: Arrive between 8:40-8:50am

Dismissal

- Walkers & Bus Riders 3:45pm
- Car Riders
 - Students A-L: Arrive at 3:50pm (**please do not arrive early**)
 - Students M-Z: Arrive at 3:57pm

ATTENDANCE

Students are considered tardy if they enter the building at or after 8:55am. At this point, parents will need to **come into the building** to sign their students in at the main office.

If your student is absent for any reason, please let the office know as soon as possible, as well as their teacher.

Students will be considered unexcused if they are absent and we have not heard from a parent or guardian by 9:30am.

Please feel free to contact the office with all attendance matters through our attendance email:

langston.hughes.attendance@usd497.org.

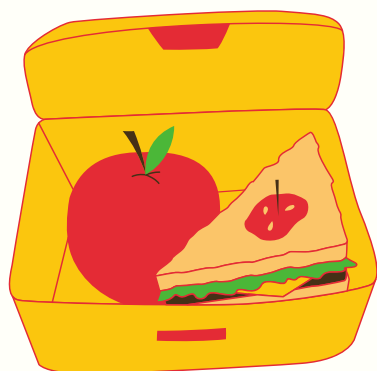
W

Arrival

- Students A-L: Arrive between 8:30-8:40am
- Students M-Z: Arrive between 8:40-8:50am

Dismissal

- Walkers & Bus Riders 2:15pm
- Car Riders
 - Students A-L: Arrive 2:20pm (**please do not arrive early**)
 - Students M-Z: Arrive at 2:25pm



BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

[Breakfast Menu](#) - [Lunch Menu](#)

There is no application for free and reduced lunches during the 2021-2022 school year. All students can receive a free breakfast and lunch each school day.

LUNCH SCHEDULE

MTWTF

Grade	Lunch
kdg	10:55-11:20
1st	11:30-11:55
2nd	12:00-12:25
3rd	12:25-12:50
4th	12:20-12:45
5th	12:55-1:20

WED.

Grade	Lunch
kdg	10:55-11:20
1st	11:30-11:55
2nd	12:00-12:25
3rd	12:30-12:55
4th	12:20-12:45
5th	12:50-1:15