LANIER DEBATE

2019-2020 Schedule

As of 10/10/19

EVENT DATE LOCATION

**Bellaire Novice Extravaganza Sept. 13 & 14 Bellaire High School**

**Afterschool Debate Club begins Tues. Sept. 17 Lanier Middle School**

**Tournament Sept. 20 & 21 Elkins High School (High School)**

**UIL Tournament Oct. 5 Pin Oak Middle School (tentative)**

**Tournament Oct. 11 & 12 Bellaire High School (High School)**

**Tournament Nov. 2 Klein Oak High School**

**Tournament Nov. 16 Oak Ridge High School**

**6th Grade Tournament Dec. 13 & 14 Lanier Middle School**

**UIL Tournament Jan. 11 Frank Black MS**

**Tournament Jan. 18 Klein High School**

**Tournament Jan. 24 & 25 Lamar High School (High School)**

**Tournament Feb. 15 Westside High School**

**Tournament Feb. 28 & 29 E.A. Olle Middle School**

**UIL Tournament Apr. 25 Stevenson MS**

**Tournament May 2 Oak Ridge High School**

**UIL Tournament May 9 Paul Revere MS**

**Debate Banquet Sat. May 16 Sheraton Galleria**

**Nationals Camp June 3-4**

 **June 8-11, 15 Lanier Middle School noon to 4:00 p.m.**

**NSDA Nationals Jun. 16-20 Albuquerque, NM**

franzfredric@yahoo.com

www.lanierspeechanddebate.org

**LANIER DEBATE - SQUAD POLICIES**

TOURNAMENT DRESS-CODE

YOUNG MEN

* Suit (preferably black) and tie
* dress shoes, belt
* Hair should be kept out of your face

YOUNG WOMEN

* Skirt and blazer (preferably black)

*Please keep skirts at a modest length*

* Or white blouse & black slacks
* Black pumps or heels
* Hair should be kept out of your face
* No excessive make-up

GENERAL TOURNAMENT ETTIQUETTE

* No gum when competing.
* Cell-phones must be “silent” while competing.
* Unless you are cross-entered, you are expected to watch everyone in your round.
* ALWAYS thank your judges and your opponents.
* You are to remain on the host campus throughout the tournament unless picked up by a parent. You are expected to stay through to the awards ceremony to support the team, even if you have been eliminated. You should not leave the tournament just because you *think* you have been eliminated. You should only leave after informing me and only in case of emergency. Leaving without letting me know causes problems when we all leave the tournament.
* Ballots will not be available until the next week after the tournament.
* Lap tops are only allowed for debate/extemp use and must follow tournament rules regarding active downloading.
* All Interp. material must be published REGARDLESS of what other schools are doing, or what’s been done before.
* You CANNOT have someone fill in for you in elimination rounds.
* Keep your area at the tournament clean. This includes the extemp. draw area.
* Lanier debaters set the standard for award ceremony etiquette. During awards you are expected to sit with our team. Electronic devices should be off during awards. This means the utmost respect is shown to all those who are receiving awards. The first place winner in every category is given a standing ovation.
* Social media – Please know that things you post on social media, whether they are related to debate or not, will reflect on you, me and your team.

TOURNAMENT FEES

* No student will be kept from participating due to financial difficulty
* Fees should be paid in a timely manner.
* Checks are preferred (payable to Lanier Middle School)
* Cash should be put in an envelope with the students’ name on it - Do not hand me a handful of cash, especially the day of the tournament.
* Students are responsible for fees for events they drop if they are dropped past the entry deadline (usually a week before the tournament).

LANIER DEBATE

CLASS/TEAM PRINCIPLES

1. **PREPAREDNESS** – **You are prepared for every class**. You will meet deadlines for cases and speeches. You will bring your materials to class. You will pay entry fees and turn in paperwork on time. If you are not prepared, you are letting down your teammates. Our success requires everyone to be strong in all their events and that starts with being prepared for the day-to-day grind.

You must also be prepared for tournaments. Make sure you have appropriate clothing washed and ironed. Do not wait until 5 minutes before we get on the bus to print out your case or copy your Interp. material, learn you intro., memorize your oratory, etc.

1. **TIME MANAGEMENT** – **You will use your time effectively**. Tournament prep time is used to practice speeches and performances. Practice rounds of debate are taken seriously. Practicing outside the classroom is a privilege. Misuse your time and you will not be allowed that privilege. Misusing your time can be infectious. Infect this team and you will not be a part of it. Even non-participants are expected to prep for their assignments.

You must also be aware of the tournament schedule. Do not use tournament time as play/social time. You are there to compete in the events in which you have worked hard for. Tournament schedules change during the day. Make sure you keep up with those changes. Don’t go off and hide some place where you can’t be reached.

1. **RESPECT** – **Respect is not a feeling, it’s an act**. You will respect your team. You will respect the debate room. You will show respect to other teams, your judges, tournament staff and chaperones. Anything that is asked of you is asked for one of two reasons: 1. For your own benefit & welfare, 2. For the benefit & welfare of the team.

Should you encounter unsportsmanlike like behavior from other competitors, you are to be the bigger person and follow the correct procedures for reporting abuses. You may tell me and I will take care of it. If I’m not around, then you may take it up with one of the tournament staff.

1. **PARTICIPATION** – **All students are expected to participate in class activities**. Whether it is giving speeches or participating in panel discussions, everyone is expected to participate in class. Tournaments are not mandatory, however once you have committed to a tournament you are obligated to prepare and compete. Missing tournaments for reasons other than emergencies or extra-curricular activities that you forgot about is not acceptable. If you are not attending a tournament, you are still expected to use the class “tournament prep” time as if you were competing. All non-participants will be expected to present to the class the school day after the tournament.
2. **PROFESSIONALISM** – **Lanier debaters are held to a high degree of responsibility and professionalism**. Every year this team’s reputation is handed to a new group of students who are expected to maintain if not improve on the tradition of excellence. The ways you dress, act and perform at tournaments are representative of this tradition. The pressure is not for you to win, but to uphold this tradition. You will be judged harder and other teams will look for ways to bring you down, so there should nothing in your performance or your character that would give them a foothold in succeeding in doing that. Prepare, perform, be gracious and humble. Winning will take care of itself.

**SUPPLIES**

* Composition Book
* Folder
* Pen/pencil
* Other supplies as needed

**GRADING**

Daily work/Participation 30%

Presentations/Non-Participant Assignments 30%

Tournament prep 30%

Current Events Quizzes 10%

Tournament Participation is for extra credit

**NON-PARTICIPANT ASSIGNMENTS**

Two weeks prior to a tournament is set aside for tournament prep. Students competing are expected bring necessary prep materials to class and to use their prep time productively. Failure to bring materials and/or use their time productive will negatively affect their grade.

Students who are not attending a given tournament will be given two alternate assignments to choose from. They will either write a case on a topic and participate in practice rounds in class, or they will present an interpretive or speech event the first class period after the tournament.

**DISCIPLINE**

Behavioral choices made in the classroom and at tournaments have consequences. Classroom behavior indicates how committed you are to debate and is the only barometer I have for how you will represent our team off-campus.

1. Verbal warning
2. Detention (afterschool/lunch) – Parent contact made
3. Sent to administrator

Strikes are given for poor behavior at tournaments or excessively poor behavior in the classroom.

**1st Strike** – You will miss the next tournament

**2nd Strike** – Suspended from debate activities including tournaments, club, banquet, etc.

**3rd Strike** – No longer allowed to attend tournaments – Not allowed to attend Nationals

**LANIER DEBATE – PARENT FAQ**

**When are the tournaments?**

Tournaments are always on Saturdays and sometimes start the Friday before. Buses will be used sparingly this year due to budget constraints. Tournament participation is always optional, never mandatory.

**How much does it cost?**

Entry fees are established by the tournament host. Please pay by cash or check, payable to Lanier Middle School. Students are responsible for either purchasing their meals at the tournaments and are encouraged to bring snacks from home, as the tournament host will sometimes run out of food.

**What does my child need to bring to the tournament?**

The attire is business formal. They will need to bring their scripts in a small black binder if they do interp.; debate cases, scratch paper and pens if they do debate. Cell-phones, money for concessions and books and electronic devices are fine. Please remind your child to be vigilant and responsible about keeping up with what they bring.

**How does my child get to nationals?**

NSDA Nationals is an open tournament for middle schools, however due to the entry limits and limited resources, we can only take a portion of our team. Students earn points (much like they do for the high school state tournament). Students can qualify for our national tournament if they have 20 total points. Students who broke at last year’s nationals are pre-qualified. The team will be set by Mar. 1, although there may be opportunities for some students to qualify after that based on space and entries.

**How can I help the team?**

Our success relies on your support. Even putting up with our late hours at tournaments is appreciated. Here are some items that we are in need of.

Supplies needed for Debate

* Snacks for debate club and tournaments (anything individually pre-packaged)
* Printer ink – HP63 (black or color but usually black)
* Bottled water for tournaments
* Kleenexes/paper towels
* White copy paper
* Hand sanitizer
* Amazon/Barnes & Noble credit (purchasing scripts and books for performance)
* Expo Dry-Erase markers (any color)
* Financial donations are always appreciated and can be made in the form of a check payable to Lanier Middle School - Debate

www.lanierspeechanddebate.org

franzfredric@yahoo.com

Lanier Speech & Debate

Class/Tournament Guide

2019-2020

*Once a Lanier Debater, always a Lanier Debater*

STUDENT/PARENT INFO. SHEET

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

GSG \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name Phone Numbers

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Any special needs your child has (allergies, medications, etc.)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**I will do my best to support my child in debate class and tournaments, if they choose to compete**.

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Parent Signature Date

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Student Signature Date