

Scottie News

Week of January 9, 2017
Issue 87

Scottie Sports:

On Monday night 12/19, the Lamar Scotties 7th grade A-Team won their semifinal game against Covington with a score of 18-12. The game was close throughout but the Lamar girls played tough and fought hard for the victory. High scorers included: Tracy Atoot with 12 points, followed by Aubrey Jackson with 6 points. Katherine Redmond and Jaz Mahr played tough on the defensive end, limiting the other team's offensive opportunities. Anna McClellan did a great job handling the ball for Lamar and Fayth Schumann played some important minutes and did a great job distributing the ball to her teammates.

The following night on the last day before the winter break—Tuesday 12/20—the 7th grade Lady Scotties basketball team became North/Central Zone Champions by defeating Kealing with a score of 23-20. Kealing had been their only loss in the regular season, so it was a true victory for our team. The game score went back and forth from Lamar to Kealing throughout. In the last moments of the game, the teams were tied 20-20, but an unbelievable finish led by Anna McClellan—who sunk a 15 foot jump shot—put Lamar ahead when the last buzzer rang. Excellent defense was played throughout by the team, particularly by Jaz Mahr and Katherine Redmond, who denied passes to two key Kealing players leading to a steal in the final seconds of the game. Anna, once again came through for the team making her free throw with Aubrey Jackson rebounding the ball as time expired. Congratulations on an outstanding season Scotties! Clean jerseys can be returned to Coach Schreiber's room this week.



Top to bottom, Left to right: Aubrey Jackson, Fayth Schumann, Anna McClellan, Peyton Casey, Katherine Redmond, Jaz Mahr, Tracy Atoot; **Not pictured:** Mary Ayala and Myra Valdez.

On Monday 12/19, the 8th grade Lady Scotties defeated Fulmore Falcons 48 -29 in the semi-final round of the playoffs. We were led in scoring by Nashae Davis 12 points, Analicia Castillo with 9 points, Emilia Morgan and Abby Soto added 8 points each. The team did a super job controlling the flow of the game on the offensive and defensive side of the court. The following night—Tuesday 12/20—Lamar came up a little short against the Covington Colts in the championship game. The game was a back and forth nail biter, with a final score of: 46-42. We were led in scoring by Analicia Castillo with 15 points, Nashae Davis with 12 points and 10 rebounds, and Roxanne Romero with 8 points. The team again played hard on the offensive and defensive side of the court, and have really come a long way as athletes. Thanks for a Super Season! Remember to turn in your uniform, your sweats, and your practice jersey this week.

On Monday, December 19th, the Lamar boys soccer team played against Covington Middle School and—with a goal by Aidan Gollieher—secured a win in that playoff game to advance to the 3rd place zone game. The following day—Tuesday, December 20th—the boys' soccer team played their last game of the season against the Dobie Wildcats. The match was tense and Lamar was behind 1-0 for most of the game. 2 goals were scored in the last 10 minutes of play, both shot by Colby Napier with assists from Connor Willis and Jake Anderson, securing the 3rd place victory for Lamar in the North-Central Zone playoff standings. Coach Molgren would like to thank all the athletes, parents, and staff for their support during the boys' soccer season!



We are proud of all our Scottie athletes! Way to step up your game this season!

Next Week:

Athletics:

- M-F Boys BB practice 3:50-5:45 – large gym
- M-W-Th Girls Soccer practice 3:50-5:15 – practice field
- Thursday 1/12 Cheer Practice 3:45-5:00 - small gym
- Thursday 1/12 Boys BB Game vs. Kealing; 7th grade 6:00pm @ **Kealing** & 8th grade 6:00pm @ **Lamar**
- Saturday 1/14 Girls Soccer Game vs. Kealing 9:00am @ **Lamar**

Fine Arts:

- Tuesday 1/12 Suessical tour to Gullett & Highland Park
- Wednesday 1/11 Open Art Studio @ 3:40 in 504 & 506
- Friday 1/13 Suessical tour to Brentwood & Ridgeway

Other:

- Monday 1/9 CAC Meeting @ 5:00pm in the library
- Monday 1/9 PTA Board Meeting @ 6:30 in the library
- Tuesday 1/10 CommUNITY meeting @ 3:45 in Rm. 105
- Wednesday 1/11 AISD CAAC Mtg. 5:00pm @ Martin MS

Down the Road:

- Monday 1/16 MLK Student/Staff Holiday – NO CLASSES
- Monday 1/16 Suessical Dress Rehearsal #1 10:00am @ AISD PAC
- Tuesday 1/17 MOY Testing – 6th, 7th, 8th Reading
- Tuesday 1/17 Suessical Dress Rehearsal #2 4:00am @ AISD PAC
- Wednesday 1/18 MOY Testing – 6th, 7th, 8th Math
- Wednesday 1/18 Open Art Studio @ 3:40 in 504 & 506
- Wednesday 1/18 Suessical Performance 7:00pm @ AISD PAC (Doors open @ 6:30pm)
- Thursday 1/19 MOY Testing – 6th, 7th, 8th Science
- Thursday 1/19 Cheer Practice 3:45-5:00 - small gym
- Thursday 1/19 Boys BB Game vs. Dobie; 7th grade 6:00pm @ **Dobie** & 8th grade 7:00pm @ **Dobie**
- Thursday 1/19 Suessical Performance 7:00pm @ AISD PAC (Doors open @ 6:30pm)
- Friday 1/20 MOY Testing – 6th, 7th, 8th Social Studies
- Friday 1/20 Dance Radix 2nd Payment Due
- Saturday 1/21 Instrumental Discovery Day @ 8:00am in the Band Hall
- Saturday 1/21 Girls Soccer game 9:00am @ **Dobie**

Classical Guitar Fundraiser:

Save the date for a Classical Guitar Fundraiser on 1/14! Every time someone mentions Lamar Middle School when they purchase tickets for Thibaut Garcia's concert at 8pm on Sat Jan 14th at the AISD Performing Arts Center, Austin Classical Guitar will donate **100%** of the proceeds from that sale to the Lamar guitar program. See www.austinclassicalguitar.org for more information. Thibaut Garcia is a French guitarist who just won the world's largest guitar competition. Come early and you'll even get to see Lamar students perform an opening set for the concert!



NJHS and Cheer Winter Dance:

By: Madelynn Niles; 7th gr. Student Council President

The lights, the music, and the ugly sweaters! On Friday 1/16, the annual Winter Dance was held in the cafeteria at Lamar. By the end of the semester, everyone was ready to celebrate for the holidays. From finals to performances, all of the Lamar Scotties were ready for some fun before the winter break.

As soon as the final bell rang, everyone ran to the front of the school to buy wristbands (if they hadn't already). The courtyard outside of the cafeteria was flooded by students meeting up with their friends for the dance. Ugly Christmas sweaters were encouraged, so of course I wore mine. I saw many other people also wearing theirs to get in the spirit. I even saw one girl who was wearing a tutu with Christmas lights inside!

The doors to the dance opened at 4:00, so many people just waited outside of the school until it started. I could feel the excitement as the clock struck four and everyone began to file in. The Christmas lights brought so much energy to the room, along with the music (making it impossible not to dance). Some people gathered in groups on the dance floor (top picture), while others preferred to eat and talk in the table area (bottom picture). Many people alternated between both locations. In the cafeteria, there were many things to do. There was a selfie booth in the corner, complete with a backdrop, props, costume pieces, and a selfie stick. There was also music that could be enjoyed in large groups or with just a few friends. My friend was sick with the flu, so I face-timed her so that she could come to the dance, too. It wasn't the same experience as coming to the dance, but she still had fun.

The NJHS and Cheer Winter Dance was exciting and magical, bringing excitement for the upcoming break. I, along with many others, enjoyed the dance very much. *Happy Holidays!*



Choir Winter Concert:

By Emmi Anderson; 6th grade choir member



Thursday December 15, 2016 was a choir concert. It was performed at the PAC (the performing arts center), and with all five choirs. Each of the choirs sang lovely and made a fun and entertaining show for all the visitors. Half way through the show they split off the stage and go for a quick change. Right back on were the Purple Pups—the beginning choir. They sang two songs: Hanukkah shalom, Santa Claus is Comin' to Town. Then the Doggie Dames sang a collection of two holiday songs. Pop performed with two upbeat songs that got the crowd moving again. Top dogs finished off three more songs including the Twelve Days of Christmas. The last individual choir to perform was the Scottie Singers! The Scottie Singers are the advanced choir and they did a collection of three songs including: Santa Baby and Shalom Chaverim. To wrap the whole amazing performance all the choirs joined together and finished with a holiday sing-along that had four songs inside of it. Finally, all five of the choirs join together once again and sing a song that is a tradition in the choir program at Lamar for years and years. The song is called Irish Blessing. Before singing, the choir director invited former choir members that were in the audience to come up on stage and sing the song with us. It was an amazing performance and a big shout out to Ms. Starkey the choir director for putting on a great show and teaching all these choirs.



Intermediate Theatre Holiday Plays:

By: Madelynn Niles; 7th gr. Student Council President

Performing for an audience is always a nerve-racking experience, but for the 8th Period Intermediate Theatre actors it seemed that being on stage was easy and natural. Each of the four plays brought true Christmas spirit, with some laughs along the way. Ms. Easter directed a beautiful collection of mini-plays, along with the help of our very talented cast and crew. I feel that we performed wonderfully, with our hard work shining through.

The showcase began with *The Elf Rebellion*, starring three elves who refuse to make toys for Santa after he doesn't pay them. The audience enjoyed it thoroughly, laughing at the subtle jokes and hilarious physicality. Next up was *Ms. MeyerMyer's Shining Moment*, starring Madelynn Niles as Ms. MeyerMyer. The plot is that all of her students lack enthusiasm for their play, "The Twelve Shames of Christmas," but she loses her marbles and ends up creepily happy for the pageant. All of the actors portraying children (such as Steele Bradford and Willa Royder) demonstrated sophisticated acting while playing young children. The third play was *The Christmas Machine*, a spin-off of Dr. Seuss with an element of Christmas spirit. Sierra Winter and George Harris started out the play strong, illustrating a beautiful story. The last play was *The Bestest Christmas Ever in Texas*. The story is about two young girls who want to have a "white Christmas" this year, even though they live in Texas. The play was cute and had some very strong actors (such as Annika Tracy and Audrey Racine) who portrayed the struggle of wanting snow in Texas while still making everyone laugh and smile along the way.

Overall, I enjoyed performing in the plays as well as watching. It was an amazing experience to see the plays grow from simple cold readings into a live performance. Acting is such a great way convey stories, and I think that that was what the 8th Period Intermediate Showcase was all about. *Merry Christmas!*



Staff Spotlight!

Hannah Sanders
Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP)



There are many cogs to the wheel that keeps Lamar Middle School turning, and Mrs. Sanders is an incredibly important one! Hannah Sanders (formerly Schinder, but she got married last year) is now in her 3rd year as an LSSP on our campus. She shares an office in the library with Mrs. Dietz, and can often be found running from meeting to meeting, conversing with students one-on-one, or typing up reports (while eating something sweet and listening to alternative 90's rock music). Besides the Lamar Scotties she cares for, Ms. Sanders is expecting a little miracle of her own! She and her husband are looking forward to welcoming a son into their family this year! Congratulations!

A Conversation with Mrs. Sanders

What made you decide to work in an educational environment?

- ✚ I've always liked working with kids, and summers off, seemed like a good fit. I have also really enjoyed learning the idiosyncrasies of what makes each of us individuals, which made psychology a natural modality to get to work with kids and have those summers off!

Tell us about your background (where you're from, where you went to school, how you came to be at Lamar, etc.):

- ✚ I'm originally from a small town outside of Waco. After graduation I moved to Austin to attend the University of Texas. I then attended graduate school at Texas State University in San Marcos. This is my 13th year working as a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology for Austin ISD. I had always heard great things about Lamar Middle School, and when my predecessor decided to retire, he reached out to me to see if I'd be interested in taking his spot.

What do you think is the most exciting part about working at Lamar Middle School?

- ✚ I genuinely like getting to know the individuality of each student.

If someone were to shadow you for a day, what's something they would learn about you?

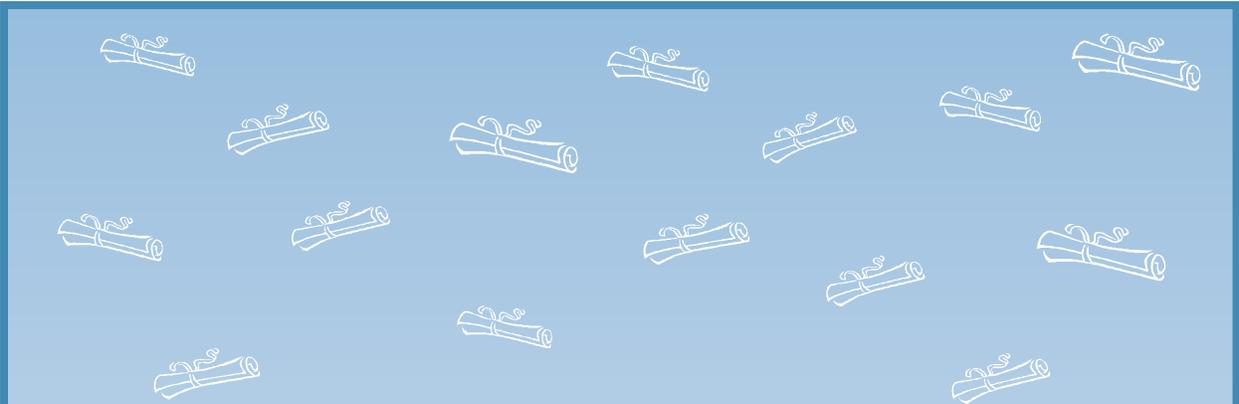
- ✚ I am in a unique position to rarely have a typical day, as I spend half my time here, the other half at an AISD elementary school, in and out of meetings, working with students, doing paperwork, and writing reports.

What are some fun facts about you?

- ✚ I don't really have interesting hobbies, as my job is really fascinating. Within the year or so, I've traveled to St. Lucia and London, which were very different trips, as one was relaxing and one was exciting. There a little fun facts about where I'm from, but if you've seen Varsity Blues, it's a good representation.

What do you think is the most important advice or wisdom you can impart to your students?

- ✚ Don't be afraid to change, as without change, you can never grow as a person.



The Lamar Middle School GT
Nomination Window is January
13-27, 2017. The online nomination
form will be shared once the
window has opened. Teachers
and parents are encouraged to
nominate any students they feel
may qualify.

Please email questions to Lisa.Leininger@austinisd.org

