

## LOCKHART JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

August 25, 2008

Dear Parents:

It is with great pleasure that the staff of Lockhart Junior High School welcomes you and your junior high students to the 2008-2009 school year. Lockhart Junior High is a Texas Education Agency "Recognized Campus" for outstanding test scores on the 2007-2008 TAKS test. We are extremely proud of our students. Lockhart parents are always supportive of their schools, and we appreciate you very much. Our vision is to serve our children with excellence.

At LJHS our top priorities are a safe environment and academic excellence for our students. We consider ourselves a team dedicated to helping our students reach their potential. Our daily schedule includes a seven period day and tutorials every morning at 7:30 a.m. We have three lunch periods, one for each grade level. School will begin at 7:55 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. We also have a Homeroom Schedule that includes a period for students to meet with their Homeroom Teachers when needed.

Seventh and eighth grade students are required to take math, language arts, social studies, science, health, technology applications, career Investigations, and physical education or athletics. Students may also choose electives each year. Band, Choir, technology courses, Spanish, Art, Life Skills, and Theatre Arts are the courses students may choose to take. High School credit is available to eighth graders in Algebra I, Spanish I and Health. All classes are fifty-five minutes.

Students in the sixth grade study math, science, language arts and social studies, all classes are fifty-five minutes in length. Each student is allowed to choose an elective from Band, or Humanities (which includes nine weeks of Theatre Arts, Spanish, Crafts, and Choir). Students also participate in Physical Education classes. Sixth grade students also have a study hall each day. The students may also participate in UIL academics, Builders Club, and Student Council if they choose to do so.

Technology is important at this age level and we provide technology training and research in our Internet labs to all students on a regular basis. LJHS has five computer labs with twenty-eight computers in each lab; one portable internet lab, a career investigations lab, and computers in every classroom. Wireless connections are available throughout the school.

We also provide a full array of sports and extracurricular activities for our seventh and eighth grade students. UIL sports and UIL academics are important to students and help them take on new roles and responsibilities. We believe that teamwork is important and prepares students for higher learning and life after a formal education is completed.

To ensure the safety of our students, LJHS has video surveillance throughout our campus. We have a strict discipline code and expect students to follow our code of conduct. Fighting is not tolerated at our campus. Students will be sent home for three days and may be issued a disorderly conduct ticket by the Lockhart juvenile authorities. We also expect our students to be respectful to each other and to adults on our campus. We promise to have a positive attitude

each day, and we expect our students to come to school with a positive attitude ready to learn. Parents are so important to us in this respect. We must have your support and trust so we can do the best job possible helping your child to learn and grow.

This packet of papers is extremely important to us. Please sign all documents that require your signature and be sure that your child returns them by Tuesday, September 2, 2008. Students who have not returned signed documents will not be allowed to attend classes after September 5, 2008.

We request that parents schedule appointments with us (Ms. Nixon, Mrs. Placke, Mrs. Flores, Mrs. Hardway) anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please do not hesitate to call the campus anytime you have a question or concern. All teachers have voice mail, e-mail, and homework hotlines. If you will register your e-mail address with us, we will be glad to send you all announcements by e-mail.

We will do our best to communicate to you as much information as possible about our campus and students. We have provided to your child this agenda folder in which to keep notes and assignments. We also send home progress reports every three weeks. Grading periods are every nine weeks and a report card will be sent home the week after a nine-week period ends. Please sign and have your son/daughter return the copy to his/her homeroom teacher. In this packet of materials, you will find a school calendar for LISD and a calendar with LJHS events for September and October.

This year our tutorials will be held Monday-Friday at 7:30 a.m. and after school on Mondays and Thursdays 3:10-4:10 p.m. when needed. Tutorials begin the third week of September and end the first week of May. We will also provide an after school program through Community Education, 3:30-6:00 p.m. The after school program will be offered at a different location this school year. If you are interested please contact Community Education 398-0245. If you have to drop your child off early, please make sure they report to the cafeteria. We have teachers on duty in the cafeteria at 6:30 a.m.

We use an I.D system at LJHS for the safety of our students. Each student will be issued two I.D's at the beginning of the school year. If your child eats breakfast at school he/she must bring the ID to use at breakfast. We also use the student I.D. system to check out textbooks and library books. It will cost \$5.00 to replace a lost I.D. Please help us by supporting the use of I.D's. All staff and visitors to LJHS must have a picture I.D. We check drivers' license of all adults who come to our campus to check out our students. Our internet system checks to identify any person who has been charged with a crime against a child. Our parent-teacher organization bought this system for us in 2004 at our request. Thank you parents!

Please check our LJHS Website for information and upcoming events. We are looking forward to seeing you and working with your child. We hope to make this the best school year ever! Open House, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grade at 6:00 p.m., 7<sup>th</sup> grade at 6:30 pm., and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

Lora Hardway, Principal, LJHS