

THE LAMPLIGHTER SCHOOL



NEW FAMILY PASSPORT

The Lamplighter School

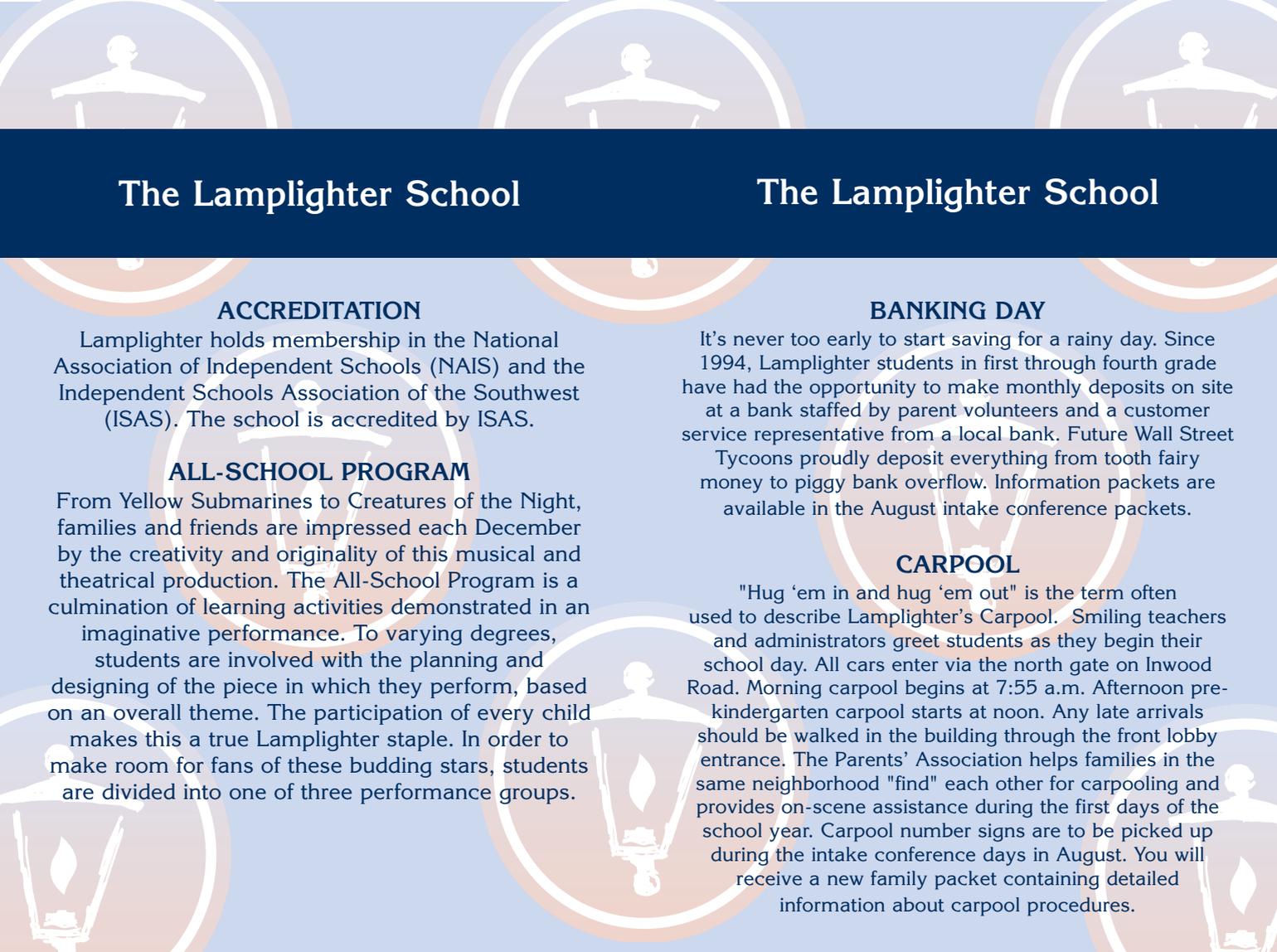
Welcome to Lamplighter!

I hope you enjoy this passport to your new learning community. An environment as unique as Lamplighter is sure to have its own special programs and terminology. This passport will provide introductory information needed to begin your family's Lamplighter journey. I hope you will take some time to review the passport to become familiar with the fun and unique experiences that await you.

In the summer, Lamplighter will provide you with detailed information on policies and procedures in the Family Handbook. In the meantime, should you have any questions or if you would like additional information, please contact me.

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Matt Brenner".

Matt Brenner
The Lamplighter School
214-369-9201
mbrenner@thelamplighterschool.org



The Lamplighter School

ACCREDITATION

Lamplighter holds membership in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS). The school is accredited by ISAS.

ALL-SCHOOL PROGRAM

From Yellow Submarines to Creatures of the Night, families and friends are impressed each December by the creativity and originality of this musical and theatrical production. The All-School Program is a culmination of learning activities demonstrated in an imaginative performance. To varying degrees, students are involved with the planning and designing of the piece in which they perform, based on an overall theme. The participation of every child makes this a true Lamplighter staple. In order to make room for fans of these budding stars, students are divided into one of three performance groups.

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BANKING DAY

It's never too early to start saving for a rainy day. Since 1994, Lamplighter students in first through fourth grade have had the opportunity to make monthly deposits on site at a bank staffed by parent volunteers and a customer service representative from a local bank. Future Wall Street Tycoons proudly deposit everything from tooth fairy money to piggy bank overflow. Information packets are available in the August intake conference packets.

CARPOOL

"Hug 'em in and hug 'em out" is the term often used to describe Lamplighter's Carpool. Smiling teachers and administrators greet students as they begin their school day. All cars enter via the north gate on Inwood Road. Morning carpool begins at 7:55 a.m. Afternoon pre-kindergarten carpool starts at noon. Any late arrivals should be walked in the building through the front lobby entrance. The Parents' Association helps families in the same neighborhood "find" each other for carpooling and provides on-scene assistance during the first days of the school year. Carpool number signs are to be picked up during the intake conference days in August. You will receive a new family packet containing detailed information about carpool procedures.



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CARNIVAL

Step right up....test your skills on the midway, have your face painted, and munch on the tastiest of culinary carnival treats. Since 1969, Lamplighter's

Carnival has been a can't-miss afternoon and evening for current families as well as a special time for alumni to catch up with friends. Organized by the Lamplighter Parents' Association (LPA) and staffed by parent volunteers, this event is a great way to get involved, meet other Lamplighter families, and is, of course, a blast for kids.

CONFERENCES AND OBSERVATIONS

Conferences and observations are the primary means of communication regarding the progress of your child at Lamplighter. Four conferences and numerous observations are scheduled each school year. Specific dates and times are provided in advance to parents. These meetings are only for parents; you will want to make alternate childcare arrangements.

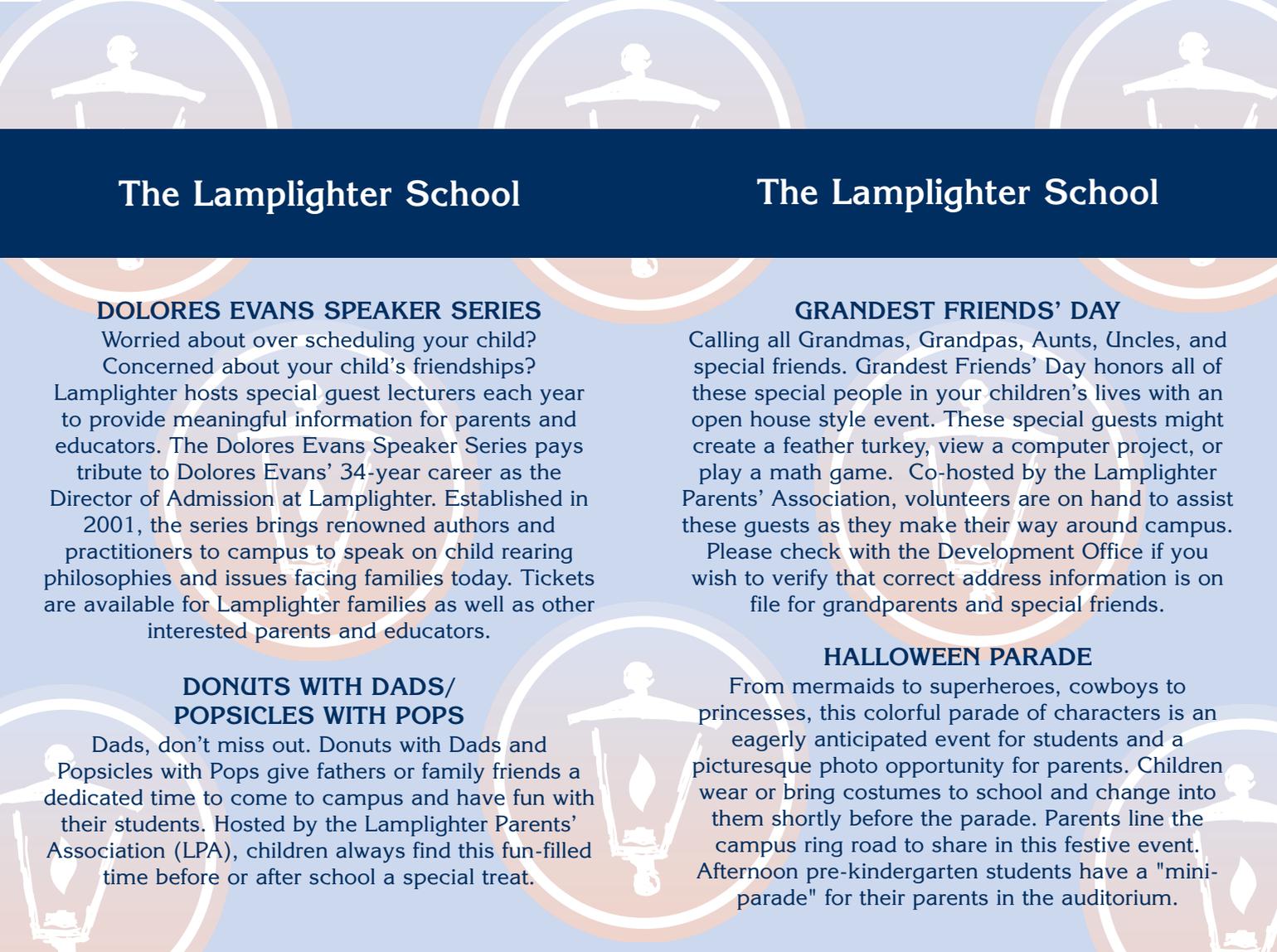
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Conferences

Conferences provide a meaningful, one-on-one, opportunity for parents and teachers to review a student's progress, using academic development records and samples of the student's work. The social and emotional growth of each individual child is also discussed at this time.

Observations

Observations provide a unique opportunity to view and understand your child's day at Lamplighter. The design of the facility permits groups of parents to observe students from the second level of the building. To create the truest viewing environment for parents, observations times and procedures are not discussed with students.



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DOLORES EVANS SPEAKER SERIES

Worried about over scheduling your child?
Concerned about your child's friendships?

Lamplighter hosts special guest lecturers each year to provide meaningful information for parents and educators. The Dolores Evans Speaker Series pays tribute to Dolores Evans' 34-year career as the Director of Admission at Lamplighter. Established in 2001, the series brings renowned authors and practitioners to campus to speak on child rearing philosophies and issues facing families today. Tickets are available for Lamplighter families as well as other interested parents and educators.

DONUTS WITH DADS/ POPSICLES WITH POPS

Dads, don't miss out. Donuts with Dads and Popsicles with Pops give fathers or family friends a dedicated time to come to campus and have fun with their students. Hosted by the Lamplighter Parents' Association (LPA), children always find this fun-filled time before or after school a special treat.

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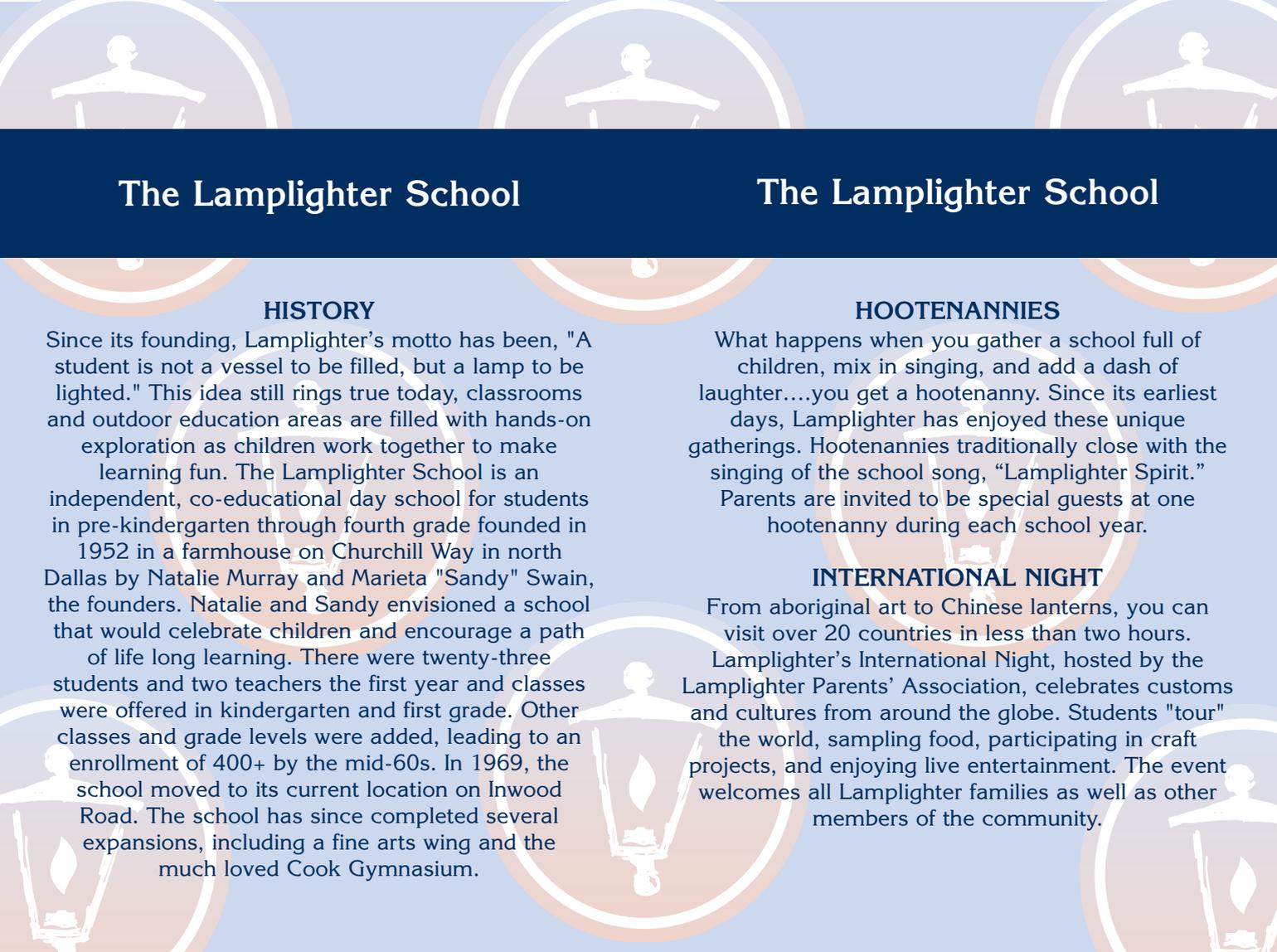
GRANDEST FRIENDS' DAY

Calling all Grandmas, Grandpas, Aunts, Uncles, and special friends. Grandest Friends' Day honors all of these special people in your children's lives with an open house style event. These special guests might create a feather turkey, view a computer project, or play a math game. Co-hosted by the Lamplighter Parents' Association, volunteers are on hand to assist these guests as they make their way around campus.

Please check with the Development Office if you wish to verify that correct address information is on file for grandparents and special friends.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

From mermaids to superheroes, cowboys to princesses, this colorful parade of characters is an eagerly anticipated event for students and a picturesque photo opportunity for parents. Children wear or bring costumes to school and change into them shortly before the parade. Parents line the campus ring road to share in this festive event. Afternoon pre-kindergarten students have a "mini-parade" for their parents in the auditorium.



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HISTORY

Since its founding, Lamplighter's motto has been, "A student is not a vessel to be filled, but a lamp to be lighted." This idea still rings true today, classrooms and outdoor education areas are filled with hands-on exploration as children work together to make learning fun. The Lamplighter School is an independent, co-educational day school for students in pre-kindergarten through fourth grade founded in 1952 in a farmhouse on Churchill Way in north Dallas by Natalie Murray and Marieta "Sandy" Swain, the founders. Natalie and Sandy envisioned a school that would celebrate children and encourage a path of life long learning. There were twenty-three students and two teachers the first year and classes were offered in kindergarten and first grade. Other classes and grade levels were added, leading to an enrollment of 400+ by the mid-60s. In 1969, the school moved to its current location on Inwood Road. The school has since completed several expansions, including a fine arts wing and the much loved Cook Gymnasium.

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HOOTENANNIES

What happens when you gather a school full of children, mix in singing, and add a dash of laughter...you get a hootenanny. Since its earliest days, Lamplighter has enjoyed these unique gatherings. Hootenannies traditionally close with the singing of the school song, "Lamplighter Spirit." Parents are invited to be special guests at one hootenanny during each school year.

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

From aboriginal art to Chinese lanterns, you can visit over 20 countries in less than two hours. Lamplighter's International Night, hosted by the Lamplighter Parents' Association, celebrates customs and cultures from around the globe. Students "tour" the world, sampling food, participating in craft projects, and enjoying live entertainment. The event welcomes all Lamplighter families as well as other members of the community.



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LPA

The Lamplighter Parents' Association or LPA is a wonderful support group for the school. All parents are members of the LPA which works to build community among families, provide volunteer assistance to the school, and raise funds to operate the LPA and to enrich the financial position of the school. The Parent section of the website provides many details on the LPA.

MEDIA CENTER OPEN HOUSE

With over 26,000 items, Lamplighter's Erik Jonsson Media Center is not only a child's reading paradise, but also a wonderful resource for parents. To keep this superior collection growing The Media Center Open House is held each December. Books are available to be dedicated in honor of students or faculty/staff members. The books become part of the Media Center collection, enabling Lamplighter to acquire a diverse and exceptional array of books, videos, DVDs, periodicals, and other materials for use in the classroom and by students.

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OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

Can't wait to get involved? From the Carnival to the Media Center Open House, countless parent volunteers lovingly work behind the scenes to make Lamplighter such a special family community. There are numerous opportunities to make use of your special talents and time. Most volunteer activities are coordinated by the Lamplighter Parents' Association, the Admission Office, or the Development Office. Parents are mailed volunteer sign-up information each spring.

LAMPLIGHTER LAYERS

Where are the freshest eggs in town, right here at Lamplighter! Since its founding in 1970, Lamplighter Layers, a chicken and egg corporation, has been operated by students in fourth grade. Students gain valuable first-hand lessons in economics, politics, farming, and business. They elect officers and serve each week as crew members responsible for the care of the chickens, the collection of eggs, and the selling of eggs at carpool.



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LETTER JACKETS

How often do you get to be the big man on campus? Lamplighter seniors proudly look forward to receiving specially designed letter jackets during a ceremony at the school carnival each fall. The jacket is proudly worn for the rest of the year and later serves as a fond souvenir of their unforgettable days at Lamplighter.

SENIOR DAYS

As their final days at Lamplighter draw near, fourth graders are eager to savor one last tradition, Senior Days. Cookouts, talent shows, and pizza days, create lasting memories with teachers and classmates. "Once a Lamplighter, always a Lamplighter," is the rule rather than the exception and the school looks forward to seeing former students return to visit often.

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SENIOR EVENT

From that first song as a pre-kindergarten student in the All-School Program to writing and performing an opera, Lamplighter students take to the stage. The Senior Event, currently an opera, is a performance by fourth grade seniors in May for families and friends and is one of the highlights of the last month of school. Since 1991, acclaimed original student-written operas have allowed senior stars to shine.

WEBSITE

Please visit www.thelamplighterschool.org for all of Lamplighter's Announcements & News including a school calendar.

The background features a repeating pattern of circular icons. Each icon contains a silhouette of a person standing behind a large, ornate lamp. The icons are arranged in a grid, with some overlapping. The colors of the icons alternate between light blue and light orange.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Lamplighter is a nurturing, child-centered community built on academic and personal excellence, trust, and respect for diversity in each other and in our society. Lamplighter inspires life-long learners who are self-confident, self-reliant, and creative critical thinkers.

DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Diversity will strengthen the education of Lamplighter children and enrich the lives of all members of the Lamplighter community. Lamplighter will, therefore, strive for the lamps that we light to reflect the ever-changing community in which we reside. We value individuality and encourage all children to reach their potential, while respecting their similarities and differences. We are united in purpose and committed to working together to accomplish the mission of The Lamplighter School.

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NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In compliance with federal and state laws, The Lamplighter School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, financial aid program, athletic and other school-administered programs, or the employment of staff.