



Lutheran High North

Quality Academics – Meaningful Ministry

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

1. What is Lutheran High North's Mission?

At Lutheran High North we strive to serve students who want an excellent educational experience in a diverse and caring environment. There is something that exists at LHN that isn't everywhere. It is a connection that reaches far beyond the classroom as students and families feel loved and valued on a daily basis. **WE ARE LHN!**

"L" = LEADING THE WAY AS LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

- We deliver academic excellence and inspire individual passions in students
- We are leaders in technology with a fully integrated 1-to-1 iPad program
- We offer a well-rounded curriculum focusing on innovation and collaboration

"H" = HONORING GOD WITH FAITHFUL LIVES

- Our school cultivates Christ-like character
- We courageously explore, develop, and apply the gifts God has given each of us
- Our students grow in God's word and become leaders of the 21st century

"N" = NOBLY SERVING OUR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY

- Lifelong relationships are developed between families, teachers, and friends
- The theme of repentance, forgiveness, and renewal is encouraged in all relationships
- We are blessed to be a blessing to others in our community

2. Where is the best place to find out what is happening at school?

You will be able to get information through several sources – the weekly email newsletter, LHN's school website www.lutheranhighnorth.org, the school calendar, register for PARENTAlert, and your Renweb account. The website calendar will have athletic games, and any other important school activities and events that are scheduled. To make sure you receive all school communication it is important to keep LHN informed of up to date, active email, mailing address, as well as cell and work phone numbers.

3. Does LHN have a Facebook page? Twitter account? YouTube?

Yes. We cordially invite you connect and follow LHN. Click on the icons on the upper left hand corner of the LHN school website.



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4. What is chapel?

We hold weekly chapel services in the Courtyard every Thursday at 10:02 a.m. Through various themes and topics, our students hear the message of Christ and his forgiveness through grace. Chapel services are led by our students, faculty, and often with local Lutheran pastors delivering the messages. Through its chapel services, Lutheran High North demonstrates its mission of GRACE, **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**.

5. Is there a designated uniform dress for chapel?

Dress: Boys – Navy pants; light blue (short or long sleeve) oxford shirt with LHN crest; tie of choice in red/navy/or combination; standard solid black or brown belt; solid color uniform color socks (if worn); shoes should be traditional dress shoes, boots or athletic shoes. Optional; Parker navy or red sweater or vest with a crest.

Dress: Girls – Plaid (touching the knee length) skirt; navy $\frac{3}{4}$ length blouse with LHN crest; solid color uniform color socks (if worn); shoes should be traditional dress shoes, boots or athletic shoes. Optional; Parker navy or red sweater or vest with a crest.

6. Tell me about the technology program at LHN.

LHN uses the latest technologically advanced teaching tools to enrich the learning experiences of students.

- Students receive an iPad customized with apps that are specific to their courses.
- LHN classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, including digital projectors, smartboards and wireless technology.
- Outside of the classroom, learning continues with Edmodo, a web-based platform where students collaborate with classmates and their teachers, including posting questions and receiving additional help with assignments, reading summaries of lessons, taking quizzes, turning in homework and more.
- Students may choose technology-related classes in Business Information Management, Desktop Publishing, Multimedia, Robotics and Webmastering.

7. Who do students go to or ask if they have technology issues or problems with their iPads?

Mrs. Shana Russell is the LHN Technology Specialist. Her contact information and MANY helpful technology resources, can be found at the LHN website, under the Academics tab, Technology section. You will find links to documents



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prepared by our technology department that will help you use your LHN technology. In this website technology section, use the buttons on the right to narrow down this information into categories such as "iPad help" or "Mac Help". The LHN Technology Survival Guide is now available for free on the iBooks Store (for iPads or Macs running Maverick). This book is a great guide to help you understand the technology that we use at our school.

8. Is the student responsible if their school issued iPad gets lost, stolen or damaged?

Yes. Students and their parent sign an acceptable use policy statement, which explains these responsibilities with the liability and insurance policies.

9. Will my child have books or are all the books on the iPads?

Some classes will require books, others ebooks, and in some cases apps on their iPads. The students will receive instructions for all these resources from their classroom teacher in their classes. If it is an ebook or app, they will receive instructions how to download from a self-serve app on their iPads. The self-serve app ONLY works when physically at LHN on our network. If they receive a physical textbook, the book handed out will be recorded by number/student and must be returned at the completion of the class. Lost or damaged book fees will be billed to the parent's account.

10. What is normal dismissal time? Are there any early dismissal days?

School begins promptly at 7:45a.m. and ends at 3:10p.m., after the end of day announcements and closing prayer. There will be certain designated Fridays (generally the last Friday of the month) where school will be dismissed at 2:34p.m. Also students will occasionally be dismissed at noon on special scheduled days. Consult the school calendar for those days.

11. What are the drop-off/pick-up procedures?

Students should be dropped off and picked up in the parking lot area in front of the school or under the porte-cochere entrance. To avoid blocking others, parking and standing is NOT permitted under the porte-cochere; it is only for dropping off or unloading. Please do not leave cars unattended under the porte-cochere. Please park in the parking lot if you come into the building.

- Parents entering the building to pick up a student during school hours should come to the office to sign students in or out.
- The only unlocked entrance to the school building open to students/parents in the morning is the lobby door under the porte-cochere on the east side of the school.



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- Students arriving before 7a.m., not involved in practice or workouts, must remain in the lobby area. At 7a.m. the Student Learning Center will also be available for students as a place to wait. At 7:15a.m. hallways and classrooms with teachers will be opened.
- After 4:00 pm, for security and supervision, the classroom hallways will have limited access and should be used only for through traffic and to stop by your locker. Students remaining on campus should be in practice for extracurricular activities, enjoying individual quiet time, or studying in the SLC (room 205).

12. How late can I pick up my child? Where will they be?

On regular school days the school building will be open until 6:00p.m. The LHN Student Learning Center (SLC) is open and attended by an adult from 3:00-6:00p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. Students not involved in supervised practice for an extracurricular activity must wait in the SLC for their ride.

If your child is here for a school-sponsored event (i.e. athletic games, concerts, etc.), you need to pick up your child when the event is over. Make advance arrangements with your child.

13. Is my child allowed to leave campus during the day or after school?

Not without permission. Please talk with your child about your expectations of whether they can leave campus with driving friends, while they are waiting for you to pick them up.

14. What are the mascot and school colors?

Lutheran High North was founded in 1980 and named the LIONS with the school colors of red, white, and blue.

15. What time are practices? Is there transportation to away games?

You can usually expect practices to begin by 3:30p.m. or before, and end between 5:00 to 5:30p.m. (Coaches may set different practice times depending on the sport and the season. Coaches will communicate practice and game schedules.) Transportation to away games is provided for games before 6:00p.m.

16. How do I know where my child's game is being played? How do I get directions?

A schedule will be sent home before the game season begins. You can also check the website calendar, or ask your child. The LHN website calendar has location information that links to directions by double clicking on the event.



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17. How do I know if a game is cancelled? How will I be contacted?

Your child should know, and will be allowed to call you from the office. You can also call the school office if you would like to check. The athletic department will try to update the website calendar as often as possible. Each coach has a system to communicate that information.

18. How do I know if practice is cancelled? How will I be contacted?

The best resource is your child. It is quickest if your child calls to let you know as soon as he/she knows about any practice cancellations.

19. What is academic “Eligibility” for extracurricular activities?

- Students must be taking a minimum of 5 credits to be eligible.
- Students who do not have passing grades on their report card in **two classes or more** will be ineligible for two weeks. Ineligibility for extracurricular activities takes effect at 8:00 am, 7 calendar days after the end of each grading period. The athletic director will check the student’s grades again at the end of the two-week period to determine eligibility.
- The grades used are Quarter 1, Semester 1 and Quarter 3.
- Ineligible students may practice and attend home activity, but may not: play in event, dress out for any event, travel to away event, be released early from school to participate in any event or try-out for a new activity.
- An ineligible student may participate in practices with LHN groups or teams as long as the student maintains weekly academic meetings with the athletic director or a coach/sponsor as assigned by the athletic director.
- An ineligible student may not participate in competitions.

20. Where do we park for school events at LHN outside the school day?

You can park in the front parking lot or fenced lot on the east side of the building. Do not park in reserved places marked by names and 24/7. You may park on the street along Alba. The community center and Baran’s Hall parking lots also belong to Lutheran High North. On particularly busy events we ask the Health Center and Foley’s for permission to use their parking. Check for signs indicating permission to park in these areas. **NEVER LEAVE VALUABLES VISIBLE IN YOUR CAR NO MATTER WHERE YOU PARK IN HOUSTON.**

21. Where can I park for school functions planned during the day, for example a pep rally, chapel, volunteering?

The east, fenced lot is for students only during the day. Please park in front of the building, at the community center, or along Alba Street.



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22. What is TAPPS? What is their website?

TAPPS stands for Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools. TAPPS exists to “organize, encourage, and promote academic, athletic, and fine arts programs in an effort to foster spirit of fair play, good fellowship, true sportsmanship, and wholesome competition for boys and girls.” Our athletes and fine arts students participate in TAPPS competitions. The website is www.tapps.net .

23. What sports does LHN participate in?

Cross Country, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Football, Swimming, Basketball, Soccer, Track, Softball, Baseball, and Golf

24. What district is LHN in? What schools do we compete with in district?

TAPPS 3A District 7

Beaumont Legacy, Rosehill Christian, Bryan St. Joseph , Katy Faith West, Woodlands Christian, Houston St. Thomas Episcopal

25. What fine arts opportunities are available to my child?

Fall Drama, Spring Musical, Art, Band, Choir, and Ensembles & Solo Opportunities.

26. What drama opportunities are available to my child?

A fall drama and a spring musical are the productions that require many student participants. Actors, singers, dancers, stage crew, technology crew, costumes, set, publicity, waitresses, program, orchestra, etc. are all positions needed to perform these productions.

27. Who do I call when my child is sick and will not be at school that day?

- Please call the school office at 713.880.3131 before 9:00a.m. to report any absences. A note signed by the parent must be submitted to the school office to be placed in the student’s file when the student returns to school.
- Personal illness, exceeding 3 consecutive days, requires a doctor’s note when the student returns to school.
- Medical and dental appointments require a note from the doctor to accompany student upon returning to school.

28. What about probable or planned absences?

- Parents should make every effort to see to it that students miss as little school as possible. We understand about scheduled doctor’s



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appointments, but students should try not to miss tests and are responsible for turning in homework.

- Anytime a student has to miss school, arrangements should be made with the teacher(s) to make up any work missed.
- Parents should also insist that their children stay home when they are sick. Coming to school ill delays the student getting better and puts other students at risk for catching the illness as well.
- Permission to use a school day for a college visit will be granted by the College Guidance Counselor if the student has satisfactory academic status and attendance at the time of the request. (See Student Handbook/College Visit, page 8)

29. How can I get in touch with my student during the day if necessary?

You may call the school office and leave a message for him/her or ask for your child to be called to the office to call you. The school office personnel will make sure that your child receives the message. Please convey the urgency of the situation to the person answering your call.

30. Are students allowed to use their cell phone at any time?

Students are not allowed to use cell phones during school hours, 7:45-3:06 except when directed by school personnel. Cell phones should be turned off during the school day. A fine of \$10 will be assessed the first time a cell phone is confiscated and must be paid when picked up. 2nd time \$20, 3rd time \$30, etc

31. Explain the tardy system

Students should be on time to every class, and are expected to be in their rooms before the start of each class. Repeated lateness to class can result in a student losing credit for his/her class. The student handbook has specific rules and regulations.

32. What is the definition of tardy to school?

- Tardy to school is defined as not being present or on time for your first scheduled class of the day.
- Students who have not reported to their first class on time or before, will be marked tardy on their attendance record as tardy to school even if they are in the building.
- Every three (3) tardies to school will constitute one (1) unexcused absence and count toward the ten (10) allowed absences.



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33. Will I have access to information on how my child is doing before the report card comes out?

You will always have access to your child's grade through the same RenWeb account that you make your tuition payments. You are always welcome to contact the teacher by email or phone if you have questions regarding the information you see posted on RenWeb.

34. What is RenWeb (ParentsWeb)?

ParentsWeb is the primary means of communicating grades, lesson plans, report cards and progress reports to parents from teachers.

All parents of enrolled school students should activate their web accounts at www.renweb.com. By activating the secure login to ParentsWeb, parents will have access to weekly grade reports, assignment information for students, progress reports and report cards. Account information and tuition payments can be found and made on ParentsWeb as well.

Email - To activate a ParentsWeb account, an active e-mail address will be necessary. The email address will be protected and only used by school staff in order to send school communications. This will be the primary means through which the school will send e-mail messages, allowing for efficient communication.

Grades – The teaching staff will upload grade information for students to ParentsWeb on a weekly basis. By Monday at 5:00 pm, grades from the previous week will be available. Report card information will also be available online. All grade information is viewable by means of a secure connection.

Report Cards – Grades will be posted on ParentsWeb at the end of each grading period. Report cards may be held and ParentsWeb accounts locked for the following reasons: unpaid tuition and fees, iPad fees for damages or loss, missing textbooks or athletic uniforms.

35. How can I contact my child's teacher if I have any questions or concerns?

You may contact your child's teacher via email – their email addresses will be on the LHN website, in their course description (handed out to students), posted on their Edmodo pages, and on RenWeb. Teachers check both email and voicemail on a daily basis. Please give teachers 24 hours to respond. Teachers are teaching class and have other duties/responsibilities that may not facilitate an immediate response.

Each teacher has a voice mail extension for messages. Please use this system to leave non-urgent messages for teachers. If there is an urgent message, please contact the school office for immediate assistance. Please set up an appointment with a teacher if a face-to-face conversation is necessary. Teachers often have specific duties and responsibilities before and after school time. Please communicate with the teacher you want to conference with before an



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impromptu visit immediately before or after school. The teacher may have previous commitments already scheduled.

Teachers may also be contacted by email. In most instances, the email address is firstname.lastname@lutheranhighnorth.org (example: for Jane Smith, the address would be janesmith@lutheranhighnorth.org). These emails will be changing next year.

36. What is EDMODO?

LHN uses Edmodo, a free and secure online learning platform where teachers and students can collaborate, share content, and use educational apps to augment classroom learning. Edmodo will enhance the learning experience and help students develop important online skills.

On Edmodo, students will be able to:

- Participate in class or group discussions that are monitored by the teacher.
- Communicate directly with the teacher to ask questions and get help with work outside of class.
- Stay organized by keeping track of important due dates, events, and tasks.
- Receive and turn in assignments and quizzes online.
- View missed work when absent from class.
- Access Edmodo from any computer or mobile device with Internet capabilities and receive notification reminders via email or text.

You may also sign up for a parent account on Edmodo, which connects to your child's account. This is a great way to stay informed of due dates, assignments, grades, school events, and any direct communication between your child and teacher. For a quick introduction video go to www.Edmodo.com and click on the **Learn More** video. We have secured our own site <http://lutheranhighnorth.edmodo.com/>

37. What volunteer opportunities are available to parents?

We welcome and encourage parent participation at LHN. There are many areas where parents' time and talents are needed. GALA (our major fundraiser), the Annual Golf Tournament, PTL, Boosters, service projects, class fund-raising, assisting teachers and coaches, teacher appreciation breakfasts, staff birthdays, etc. Ask! Get involved!



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38. Tell me about College Counseling.

The Academic Dean and College Guidance Counselor both serve all students in a variety of ways.

- The Academic Dean, Mrs. Lynn Eickemeyer, facilitates scheduling of classes, oversees input of grades from teachers, transcript input, scheduling of testing and final exams, standardized testing, SAT/ACT info and opportunities, accommodations in testing, academic probation, parent and student conferences, academic transfers of credits in and out, dual credit classes, etc.
- The College Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Mary Heath, facilitates student and parent informational meetings and conferences relating to college admissions, transcript requests, college fair opportunities, school visits by students, scholarship searches, application requirements, coordination of letters of recommendation, visits to LHN by College Admission Representatives, SAT/ACT info and opportunities, etc. The College Guidance Counselor offices in the Lion's Den (room 106).

39. What is the Lion's Den (room 106)?

The Lion's Den is a resource room with college guidance material available for all students and their parents. There are workstations with mini-Macs available to work on applications, resumes, essays, etc. Various free resources are available to download or as hard copies. Instructions and "to-do" lists for the components needed in the college planning and admissions process will be at your fingertips. Informational meetings as well as scheduled meetings with counselor(s) will be held in this room.

40. What is the SLC (room 205)?

The Student Learning Center is upstairs with a white board "wall" and LHN graphics with bible verses in red and blue. It is the home of our technology headquarters, office of the LHN Technology Specialist, as well as a place for students to study (before and after school), use computers and charge iPads. A projector and big screen TV allow audio-visual presentations facilitating a great place for meetings and gatherings.

41. Where is the Courtyard? What is it used for?

The courtyard is an interior, two story high room in the building with the gym, weight room, classroom and hallways forming its perimeter. During the week this large meeting space is used for all school announcements and chapel. Concerts, banquets, assemblies, homecoming bbq's, dances, game night movies, etc are held in this room.



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42. Where is the gym? Athletic fields? Community Center? Is there a gate charge for parents? Students?

The gym is off the north side of the school lobby. The football, baseball and soccer fields are north of the building. The softball field (on the YMCA property) is across the street behind the Community Center on Alba Street before the railroad tracks.

The Community Center is across Alba Street. It is a building that houses two practice gyms with limited spectator space. It is used by the LHN students, staff, and athletic teams and is rented out to the community.

LHN students do not have to pay admission to LHN athletic or drama events unless it's a TAPPS play-off event. Adults pay admission to LHN events. Booster Club sells a yearly pass that admits you to all LHN regular season athletic events.

43. When are final exams?

Exams are given at the end of each semester – December and at the end of May. Special information regarding exams will be posted in the newsletters preceding these exams. Final Test grades account for 20% of the semester grade.

44. When will my child take the PLAN, the PSAT, the ACT and the SAT?

On a Wednesday, in the middle of October, there is a National PSAT testing date. We register all LHN juniors for the PSAT to be administered here at LHN on that date. The freshmen, sophomores and seniors also will be taking tests that date, just not the PSAT. It is a half-day of school and ALL students will be taking tests.

The ACT and SAT test dates are not administered at LHN but are noted on the LHN website calendar to help LHN families in scheduling these dates. Junior and senior students must sign up individually for these tests. Specific information is available through the College Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Mary Heath and on the College Resources section on the LHN website under the Academics tab.

45. What is the school's policy on school sponsored dances?

Student dances are an acceptable part of the co-curricular activities at LHN and are a wholesome activity if properly conducted with guidelines.

- These are evening affairs normally starting at 8pm and concluding by 11pm to meet the City of Houston curfew laws. Students must arrive by 9pm. If any student arrives after 9pm they will not be admitted to the dance and the student's parent/guardian will be called.
- Tickets are usually sold in advance and sometimes at the door depending on the event.



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- Students bringing non-LHN guests must have Visitor Reference Form completed and returned within 24 hours prior to the event to the Office Manager. Guests must be in grades 9 through 12, or no more than 2 years out of high school.

The complete list of dance guidelines can be found in the Student/Parent Handbook on the LHN website under the Student or Parent tabs.

46. Is there a prom? Who can attend? When is it?

There is a junior-senior prom in the spring. Seniors, juniors, and their guests may attend. Visitor Reference Forms are required if the LHN student is bringing a guest as their date. Please see Student/Parent Handbook for more dance guidelines.

47. What is the school's policy about substance abuse? Who makes the decisions concerning this?

There is detailed information in the LHN Student/Parent Handbook on our website. All parents and students are expected to follow the school's policy. The Principal/HOS make decisions based on the policies stated in the handbook.

48. How safe is Lutheran High North?

Lutheran High North is by most measures extremely safe. We hear remarks from parents and students alike that they experience a "safe, family feeling" here at LHN. Although LHN has historically, always been a safe place, we are not totally immune from problems occurring in society in general. If LHN staff is notified about a problem they will instruct you to talk to an administrator and it will be dealt with as soon as possible upon gathering the facts. Keeping valuables safe is easier when the student uses their locked locker, provided by the school to store valuables. On an open campus, valuables should not be left unattended.

49. Talk about the Cafeteria in general

A hot lunch plate and a variety of hot a la carte items are available. *Josie's Place* prepares the food at their restaurant and serves from a steam table in our lunchroom for reasonable prices. The lunch menu for the month is posted in the lunchroom and also online on the LHN website. Students may bring a sack lunch or can use the microwaves available to heat up their food. Several vending machines also provide an assortment of healthy drinks and snacks.

- Students are to remain in the cafeteria area for the entire lunch period unless permission and pass is obtained from supervising teachers in the lunchroom.
- Students are to arrive on time and may use the restrooms or office phone only with permission from the lunchroom supervisors.



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- Restroom use during lunchtime is preferred over class time interruptions.
- Students not scheduled for that lunch are off-limits if they are in the cafeteria.
- Lunchtime guests must be approved 24 hours in advance by the Office Manager, sign in at the school office, receive a pass and be appropriately dressed by LHN dress code standards.

50. Tell me about the all school retreat the first week of school.

Yes, ALL students are required to go. It is part of the LHN Theology curriculum.

Students will leave from Lutheran High North on Wednesday afternoon (August 20th) at 3:00pm and return to LHN by 3:00pm on Friday afternoon (August 22nd). Students will grow spiritually, get to know each other, work together in small groups, set goals, and have a great time. Our LHN Student Ambassadors (with several LHN staff and brave parents) will lead all activities. There will also be plenty of opportunities for outdoor activities including: swimming, volleyball, basketball, ultimate Frisbee, capture the flag, whiffle ball, etc.

All meals are provided and included in the retreat fee. Students will eat dinner upon arrival to camp Wednesday evening. If you have dietary requirements, please contact the school office immediately at 713.880.3131. The cost is \$170.00 and will be included in your billing statement. If you have any questions or concerns please call the school office.