

THE VARNETT GAZETTE

THE VARNETT SCHOOL



Summer 2017

varnett.org

Congratulations, Fifth-Graders! Sixth-Grade Aerospace Academy Is Coming To Varnett

Congratulations to our fifth-graders as they move onto the next level!

But that next level doesn't mean students have to go elsewhere for sixth grade.

Many of our fifth-grade students have already signed up for The Varnett Public School's new sixth-grade Aerospace Academy, which will be featured at each campus starting in 2017-18. Please enroll while space is still available.

The goal of the "Sixth-Grade Aerospace Academy" is to improve student achievement in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) in the following ways:

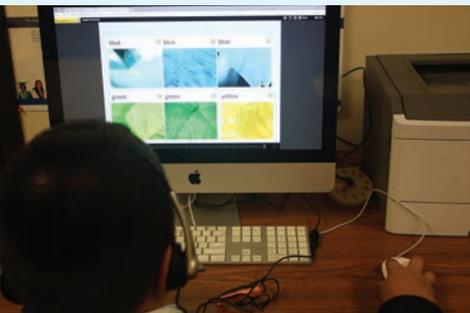
- Mentorship opportunities and tutoring for students who are identified as future STEAM majors and seeking careers in high-skilled, high-growth occupations.

- Create a pipeline for rigorous study that increases student interest in the STEAM areas.
- Ultimately prepare students for rewarding careers in the 21st century economy by improving student achievement outcomes in math and science.



Our mission is to prepare and inspire the next generation of skilled professionals for aviation and aerospace careers while promoting STEAM-based education programs.

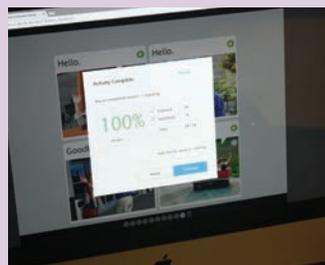
We are very excited about this new program and hope you are too! Check our website, varnett.org, for further updates regarding this program.



Rosetta Stone program gains momentum at Varnett

Riding a wave of national attention, The Varnett Public School's Rosetta Stone language program will begin in earnest for the 2017-18 school year.

Rosetta Stone's first-year success earned recognition from Defender News Service, Education Dive news service, Globe Newswire, Broadway World and even The Street, a financial news service.



With a Spanish-speaking population of more than 40 percent, Varnett uses the Rosetta Stone technology to help students with English language learning. Up to 750 English as a Second Language (ESL) students have access to the digital program, helping them to develop English reading, writing and speaking skills at an accelerated pace. Varnett also makes Rosetta Stone accessible on computers, laptops, smart phones, I-Pads and Kindles.

"Since implementing Rosetta Stone in our schools in January, we've seen our ESL students make tremendous gains in their English language learning," said Dr. Margaret Stroud, superintendent of the Varnett district. "The program is particularly appealing because the technology allows students to learn on the go – whether they are at home or in class – and they can self-pace their instruction."

Some teachers and English speaking students are also applying Rosetta Stone to learn other languages, including Spanish.



Educators amazed at student progress



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations go to Ms. LaShanon Hollis, Southwest Campus parent liaison, and Mr. Panchito Fontillas, Varnett's Accelerated Bridge Program specialist.

Ms. Hollis was selected as a 2017 Guiding Star Award Recipient sponsored by Parents for Public Schools of Houston, which celebrates the unsung heroes of public education. She was honored at an awards ceremony Monday, May 22, at Rice University.

Mr. Fontillas earned an educational specialist degree this month from Arkansas State University. The online program focused on Curriculum and Instruction, his major, and is designed for individuals who wish to develop advanced knowledge and theory beyond the master's degree level.

Join us in congratulating Ms. Hollis and Mr. Fontillas!

STUDENT NEWS

Discipline policy ensures due process for students

The Varnett Public School has posted on its website an expanded Code of Student Conduct that emphasizes due process for students.

The 17-page document, which addresses unacceptable behavior and discipline, may be found under the Parents tab on Varnett's home page (varnett.org).

It calls for Varnett to provide for the fair and equitable treatment of students facing suspension and expulsion by affording them their due process rights under the law.

"For students facing suspension or expulsion from school because of their alleged violations of student code or conduct, they must be afforded an informal hearing with school administrators before such (discipline) is finalized," the document states.

We ask that parents and guardians fully read the document to help ensure that students, parents and the school can "share the responsibility for creating the best possible educational setting."



2017 - 2018 School Uniform Guidelines



The Varnett student uniform policy will remain unchanged for the 2017-18 school year.

The uniforms will be provided by Charter School Uniforms, 10606 Hempstead Rd., #122, Houston, Texas 77092.

To order online, go to charteruniforms.com. Click "Find Your School" and type in "Varnett" or "77035." Then click on "Shop Girl's Uniform" and/or "Shop Boy's Uniforms."

If you have any questions, please call 713-491-4682.

See you next school year!

DAYS/DIAS	PRE K-2 GIRLS/ NIÑAS	3-5 GIRLS/ NIÑAS	PRE K-5 BOYS/ NIÑOS	6 GIRLS-BOYS/ NIÑAS- NIÑOS
MONDAY/LUNES Pre k- 6 (boys & girls) Blue shorts /green polo shirt				
Prek -6 (niños y niñas) short azul con camisa polo verde.				
TUESDAY/MARTES Pre k-2 Girls/Niñas Green Jumper/white shirt vestido verde con blusa blanca.				
3-5 Girls/Niñas Green skirt/white shirt Falda verde con blusa blanca				
6 Girls/ Niñas Green skirt/white oxford shirt/green cardigan/plaid cross tie Falda verde/blusa blanca oxford/sueter verde/corbata cruzada				
Pre k-5 Boys/ Niños Blue pants w/white shirt pantalón azul con camisa blanca				
6th Grade Boys/ Niños Blue pants w/white shirt and vest/plaid bow tie/pantalón azul con camisa blanca y chaleco/corbata de moño				
WEDNESDAY/MIERCOLES Pre k- 6 (boys & girls) Blue shorts/green polo shirt				
Prek -6 (niños y niñas) short azul con camisa polo verde.				
THURSDAY/JUEVES Pre k-2 Girls/Niñas Green Jumper/white shirt vestido verde con blusa blanca.				
3-5 Girls/Niñas Green skirt/white shirt Falda verde con blusa blanca				
6 Girls/ Niñas Green skirt/white oxford shirt/green sweater with plaid cross tie. Falda verde/blusa blanca oxford/sueter verde/corbata cruzada.				
Pre k-5 Boys/ Niños Blue pants w/white shirt pantalón azul con camisa blanca				
6th Grade Boys/ Niños Blue pants w/white shirt and vest/plaid bow tie/pantalón azul con camisa blanca y chaleco/corbata de moño				
FRIDAY/VIERNES Pre k- 6 (boys & girls) Blue shorts/green polo shirt				
Prek -6 (niños y niñas) short azul con camisa polo verde				

Varnett Year at a Glance



Northeast students mob Chuck E. Cheese mascot



Farewell from East Campus Staff



Farewell from Northeast Campus Staff



Spelling Bee winners at Southwest Campus



Book Fair at East Campus



Farewell from Southwest Pre-K Campus Staff



Farewell from Southwest Campus Staff



Southwest Pre-K students taught to make healthy meals

Varnett Academic Calendar

The 2017-18 academic calendar has been posted on our website. Go to varnett.org, click the **Parents** tab on the home page and drop down to 2017-18 Varnett Public School Calendar.

"Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!



Here are some key dates:

Teachers report to work August 7, 2017	Thanksgiving November 20-24, 2017	First day of second semester January, 22, 2018
First day of school for students August 21, 2017	Winter break December 25, 2017 through January 8, 2018	Parent conference day January, 26, 2018
Labor Day September, 4, 2017	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday January 15, 2018	Spring break March 12-16, 2018
Parent conference day September, 22, 2017	Last day of first semester January 19, 2018	Memorial Day May 28, 2018
Fall holiday October 20, 2017		Last day of school for students May 31, 2018

Schedule for school bus sign up

School bus sign up for 2017-18 will be August 14-17, 2017 from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Please allow about 15 minutes to fill out the paperwork.

Sign up is on a first-come, first-serve basis, including for those students who rode the bus this school year. The Varnett Public School will take applications until the buses are filled.

Please report to the campus where your children will be attending school for 2017-18.

Thank you for making Varnett your school of choice. And, remember, that six grade will be added at East, Northeast and Southwest campuses.



Mission Statement

The mission of the Varnett Public School is to provide a rigorous academic program which meets the needs of our diverse population.

The four principles of our core beliefs are high student achievement, safety, respect and common decency. We are committed to meeting those needs through providing a safe learning environment, a highly qualified dedicated staff, advanced technological tools, involving parents and families and utilizing community resources.

This mission is based on the belief that: school choice motivates excellence; the overall student-achievement level must be improved; there can be no achievement gap between socioeconomic groups and/or children of ethnic diversity; recruitment and retention of highly effective teachers are the keys to excellence and increasing student achievement; meaningful parental engagement must be increased; and all students, staff and parents must be treated with common decency.

Vision Statement

The Varnett Public School is dedicated to excellence in all things.



For access to Varnett's website, varnett.org, activate the app on your mobile device and point your mobile device's camera over the QR code. Click the scan option and within seconds the website is loaded to your mobile device.



Like us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/varnett>



Follow us on Twitter
<https://twitter.com/varnettschool>

Visit Varnett To schedule a tour of any of our campuses, please call 713.723.4699



2016-2017 School Board Members

- Dr. Matthew Plummer – **President**
- Dr. Edgardo Colon – **Vice President**
- Mr. Clarence White III – **Secretary**
- Mrs. Marcia Johnson, Esq – **Member**
- Mr. Ward S. Gray - **Member**
- Dr. Margaret Stroud - **(non-voting member)**

The Varnett Public School would like to acknowledge and thank our community partners:

- | | |
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| 97.9 The Box | McDonald's |
| AIDS Foundation of Houston | MHMRA of Harris County |
| Cadillac Bar Restaurant - Taco Me Crazy Taco Truck | Molina Healthcare |
| Community Family Centers | Pine Woods Screening Services, LLC |
| Gateway to Care | Royal Dental |
| Girl Scouts | Scholastic Corp. |
| H-E-B | South Texas Dental – Family Dental Services |
| Home Depot | Summit Dental Center, Houston |
| Hope Through Grace | Susan G. Komen Houston |
| Houston Fire Department | Texas Children's Health Plan |
| Houston Police Department | Texas Children's Hospital |
| Income Tax and Business Unlimited | Walgreens |
| Jefferson Dental Clinics | |

Administration Office

5025 South Willow Drive
Houston, Texas 77035
Dr. Margaret Stroud, Interim Superintendent
Phone: 713.667.4051
Hours: Mon. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

East Campus

804A Maxey Road
Houston, Texas 77013
Gayle Voltz, Campus Director
Phone: 713.637.6574
Hours: Mon. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Northeast Campus

8305 Mesa Road
Houston, Texas 77028
Toni Fisher, Campus Director
Phone: 713.631.4396
Hours: Mon. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Southwest Campus

5025 South Willow Drive
Houston, Texas 77035
Ni'Cole Mukes, Campus Director
Phone: 713.723.4699
Hours: Mon. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Southwest Pre-K

5025 South Willow Drive
Houston, Texas 77035
Cheyne Brown, Campus Director
Phone: 713.667.4051
Hours: Mon - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.