


April 26, 2019



# A COMMUNITY FORUM

FOR PARENTS:



## GRIEF & SUICIDE

Wednesday, MAY 1 | 6:30 p.m. | Lakota East Freshman School

### **Lakota Hosts Community Forum for Parents on Grief & Suicide**

As we mourn the tragic loss of one of our Liberty Junior students to suicide this week, Lakota invites all parents to a community forum about grief and suicide on May 1.

"We are deeply saddened by this unexpected tragedy and share our deepest sympathies with the student's family and friends," said Lakota Superintendent **Matthew Miller**. "During this very difficult time, our focus has been on supporting her immediate family, as well as so many of our students and staff, who are grieving this loss and grappling with their emotions."

"We know that there are many unanswered questions about how to best support one another, including our children, during this time," he continued. "So our hope is that this forum will arm adults with information and resources about how we can help our students navigate through this situation and be part of the solution as we move forward."

The adult-only program will take place next Wednesday, May 1 at Lakota East Freshman in the auditorium. The presentation will begin at 7 p.m., but attendees are encouraged to come early and visit a resource fair, which will begin at 6:30.

Speakers include professionals from the district's partners at Grant Us Hope, Companions on a Journey and Solutions Community Counseling. [Click here to view a flyer with more details about the program and speakers.](#)

Lakota offers up some additional resources that parents may find helpful as they navigate the grieving process with their family:

- [Resources for Grief](#)
- [National Suicide Hotline](#)
- [Parent Resource](#)
- [Columbia Community Card for Teens](#)
- 24-Hour Suicide Text Line: text "4 Hope" to 741741
- Butler County 24-Hour Mobile Crisis Line: 1-844-4CRISIS (1-844-427-4747)

"Even with all of the resources and support in place in our schools, we continue to emphasize that suicide prevention is a community effort that requires a persistence of hope and support," Miller said. "I hope that you will join me on May 1 for this very important program."





## Lakota Shares Powerful Learning Strategies to Inspire Advancements in Education

### *Innovation Portfolio includes reimagining the high school experience and team teaching*

Lakota Local Schools is sharing powerful learning strategies with a national audience through [Innovation Portfolios](#), a new storytelling platform where school districts can widely share ideas, programs, and implementation practices they've designed, supported, and grown in their districts.

Lakota Schools is involved with Innovation Portfolios through its membership in the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, a national coalition of 102 forward-thinking public school districts across 33 states representing nearly three million students.

"Stories have the power to inform, inspire, connect, and mobilize," said Digital Promise President and CEO Karen Cator. "Innovation Portfolios present powerful stories of important accomplishments across public education. We're excited to see how this resource grows as more districts contribute."

Lakota's Innovation Portfolio highlights the district's work to empower teachers and students through innovative approaches to education including reimagining the high school experience.

More than 30 teachers and students participated in a three-day design challenge in November to brainstorm ideas about creating a more engaging experience for students. An immediate outcome of this work is the expanded offerings during the optional zero bell beginning in the fall of 2019.

"Our students need to be prepared not just for graduation, but for what comes next," said Lakota's superintendent, **Matthew Miller**. "In order to set our kids up for success, they need a voice at the table," he continued. During registration for next year, students were able to choose up to seven courses instead of the traditional six. While the district has offered a social studies and English class during zero bell in the past, it plans to offer classes by demand instead of limiting the number.

"Students will drive the courses offered during zero bell in the fall," said Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction **Keith Koehne**. "Students were able to choose to come early for zero bell or stay late for a seventh bell," he explained. "We will determine the courses that may be offered based on student request and district resources."

Visitors to the site can search for Innovation Portfolio entries by filtering for categories such as district location, district size, a district's percentage of free and reduced lunch, and urbanicity. Additionally, stories are tagged by challenge topics identified by educators on the [Digital Promise Challenge Map](#). "As a member of the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, Lakota is able to network and collaborate with like-minded, forward-thinking schools across the country," said Miller. "It's rewarding to know that the work we are doing for our kids is being recognized at this national level."

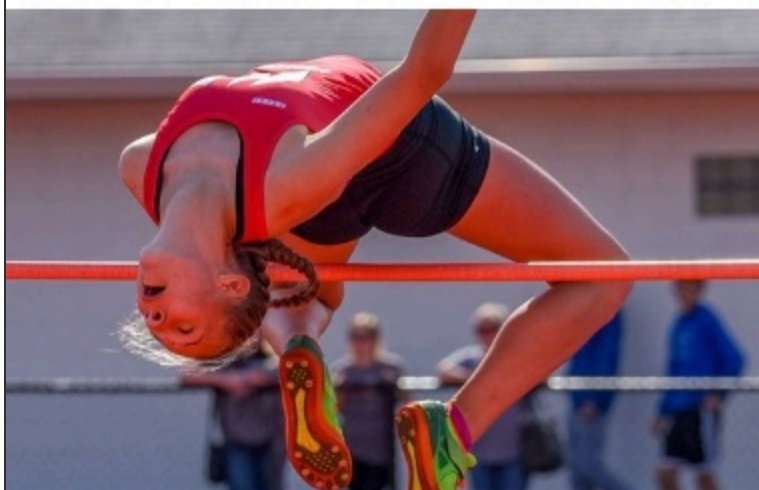
Innovation Portfolios represent a new effort by Digital Promise to share a wide breadth and depth of innovation in education, empowering school districts to tell their own stories of successful programs they've designed, supported and grown. Already, nearly 170 entries across dozens of districts offer models, strategies, and lessons learned.

To further explore the Innovation Portfolios, visit [portfolios.digitalpromise.org](https://portfolios.digitalpromise.org).

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# SHOUT OUTS



Clockwise from top: Grayson Hamilton pitches perfect game, East alum Deanna Pan named Pulitzer finalist, West holds signing ceremony, West's Kinley breaks high jump record and East alum Giang named USC valedictorian.

## East Graduate Named Pulitzer Prize Finalist

Lakota East graduate **Deanna Pan** was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist in feature writing for “a deeply moving examination of racial injustice in South Carolina that led to the execution of a 14-year-old black boy wrongfully convicted of killing two white girls, and that ultimately exonerated him seven decades after his death.”

Pan is a graduate of East's Spark news magazine program and has been freelance writing in New York. She is set to join the staff at Boston Globe next month as an enterprise/features reporter.

## Former East Salutatorian Named USC Valedictorian

**Ivana Giang**, salutatorian of the Lakota East Class of 2015, has been named valedictorian of the University of Southern California Class of 2019. Giang has been deeply involved in diversity work during her time at USC and will be addressing the graduates during USC's commencement ceremony on May 10.

## East Senior Pitches Perfect Game

Lakota East senior **Grayson Hamilton** is the first player in Lakota baseball's 50-plus year history to pitch a perfect game. During the April 17 game against Princeton, Hamilton was able to take down 21 consecutive batters. During the final inning, Hamilton struck out the 21st batter, to end the game. His teammates mobbed him on the pitcher's mound in a jubilant celebration. Hamilton will continue playing baseball next year at Ohio Dominican.

## West Student-Athletes Honored at Final Signing Event

The Lakota West Athletic Department hosted the fourth and final college athletic signing event of the year on April 17, the first day of the NCAA National Letter of Intent regular signing period for basketball. The Firebirds boasted 13 student-athletes signing with their respective schools raising the total for the school year to 28. *Photo above courtesy of Jenny Walters Photography.*



Lakota East will hold their final athletic signing day celebration on May 1.

**Casey Bramble:** Softball (Mount St. Joseph University)

**Jenna Harris:** Softball (Lourdes University)

**Alyssa Triner:** Softball (Trevecca Nazarene University)

**Alyssa Witmer:** Softball (Mt. St. Joseph University)

**Matt Brankamp:** Baseball (Mt. St. Joseph University)

**Brandon Smith:** Baseball (Wilmington College)

**Aiden Manning:** Lacrosse (Capital University)

**Florine Sanchez:** Tennis (Ohio Northern University)

**Sarah Miller:** Soccer (Anderson University - SC)

**Brooke Neu:** Soccer (Anderson University - IN)

**Jaydis Gales:** Basketball (California University of Pennsylvania)

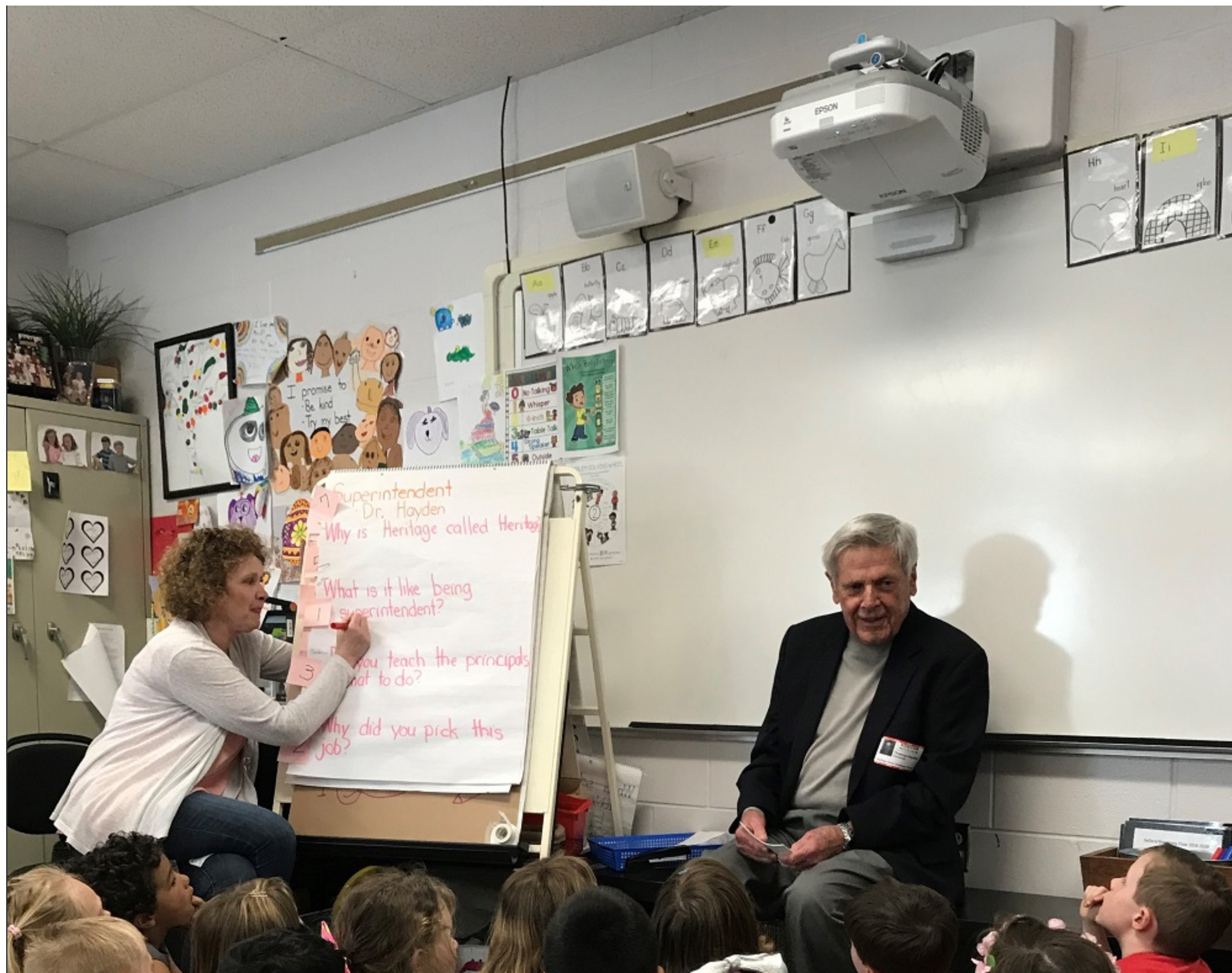
**Brooke Aragon:** Golf (Thomas More University)

**Abby Wagner:** Golf (Thomas More University)

## **West Sophomore Breaks Lakota's 38-Year High Jump Record**

Lakota West sophomore **Annika Kinley** shattered one of the oldest records in the Lakota district's track and field record book. She cleared a height of 5' 7.5" while winning the high jump at last week's Colerain Invitational meet. This height topped the Lakota school district record (Lakota East, Lakota West, and Lakota combined) that had been held by Shari Brewer for 38 years. *Photo above courtesy of Jenny Walters Photography.*

## AROUND LAKOTA





## Heritage First-Graders' Curiosity Fuels Learning

Students in **Kristin Sellers** and **Eunice Vogelsang**'s first grade classes had a lot of questions when it came to the history of their school.

1. Why did they put Heritage in this exact location?
2. When do they build a new school?
3. Why is our building shaped the way it is?
4. Why is it named Heritage?

So the Heritage ECS teachers brought in some experts to help students get their answers. The students formulated and organized their questions, and then interviewed **Lori Vanover** (an original Heritage teacher), **Chris Passarge** (Lakota's Chief Operating Officer), and former superintendent **Dr. Tom Hayden**.

The students learned that the process to build a school is a long one. They found out that "Heritage" is a patriotic name and that a Native American blessed the school when it opened. Now the students are using the information they gathered to create a brochure to share with the Heritage community.

"Our brochure is important because we are going to teach people lots of information about Heritage," said first-grader **Rose**.

The students looked at different brochures and decided what features to include, and they voted to do the project on the touchscreen laptops. "I'm excited to add photographs to my brochure, using the camera on the computer," said **Jeremiah**.

The teachers are piloting this Heritage history project for next school year; it employs an inquiry-based learning approach that engages students by triggering curiosity. First and fifth grade teachers are piloting the Inquired Program throughout the social studies curriculum.

The first-graders are excited about their history project, and are working together to create the brochure that will be made available in the school's office to teach people about Heritage.

Heritage first-grader **Annie** summed it up, “It’s going to be hard work to make the brochure, but it’s going to be worth it!”.





*(Left to right) Cherokee sixth-graders Philip Lee, Gavin Halstead, Evin Lodder and Benjamin Gill traveled to the UC Economics Center with gifted teacher Erin Maddox to present their learnings from a 10-week stock market simulation, where they finished second among 600 teams statewide.*

## **Cherokee Students Lead Statewide K-12 Stock Market Game**

If you're new to the stock exchange, you might find good counsel in these sixth-graders at Cherokee Elementary: **Benjamin Gill, Philip Lee, Evin Lodder** and **Gavin Halstead**.

In a 10-week stock market simulation, the foursome made up a team that grew their investments by just over 14 percent, steadily holding the first place spot for most of the statewide competition and ultimately placing second to beat out more than 600 elementary through high school teams.

Starting with a pool of \$100K, the team was challenged to study the stock market daily and invest their fictitious dollars for the highest possible return.

"I am constantly looking to incorporate teamwork, compromise and problem-solving, and this competition involved all of those skills," said Cherokee's gifted teacher, **Erin Maddox**, who found appeal in the game's real world applications, career connections and pure competition. She also appreciated the math connections made through reading and interpreting graphs and calculating costs and potential gains of their investments.

Research was another critical skill, as her students turned to online resources like Yahoo Finance, financial experts, current events and even their parents for guidance on their decisions. Although there were very few disagreements over their investments, the group did have a procedure in place for such stalemates.

"If we couldn't agree, we would first sleep on it," said Gill, the team's appointed director. "We would vote again the next day after reviewing more evidence."

Their performance in the 10-week competition earned them an invite to the University of Cincinnati's Economics Center to present their learnings and compete against other top teams for an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City. Although they fell short of the top spot, they walked away with something more valuable.

"Now we know how to invest in our money in the future," said lead researcher Halstead. "I learned that you really have to put a lot of effort into research to do well."

"They began to gain an understanding of the concept of 'buy low, sell high'," noted Maddox. "They also became more aware of current events and how those events impact the stocks and grew more strategic in their investments as the game went on."

And in case you really are looking for investment guidance, among their advice: diversify your stocks; pay close attention to the graphs; buy a lot of cheap, well-performing stocks; don't sell at rock bottom; and above all else, high risk means high reward.





## **Ridge Junior Students Take Lead on First Mental Health Expo**

All that Ridge Junior health teacher **Matthew Abshear** takes credit for in the school's first-ever mental health expo is sharing the idea and then turning his students loose.

"I told them let's do something different and they ran with it," he said of the event, which was designed to raise awareness about mental health issues and lessen the stigma associated with them. "At my age, no one ever talked about mental health, so the main idea was to get students talking about it and gaining a deeper level understanding for what people might be facing."

Each of Abshear's classes hosted a different segment of the all-day expo, presenting their research on one of 13 different topics, ranging from depression and eating disorders to PTSD and anxiety. Other Ridge students visited the Innovation Hub and had the freedom to visit the booth(s) that most interested them. This included their choice of expert visitors from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Solutions Counseling and Beckett Springs - another idea from Abshear's students.

Student **Kody Kelly** presented his findings about depression in a way that would assist his peers in recognizing the signs among their friends. For students who may have been there actually seeking help, they were also given the option to scan any one of the QR codes on display to get information digitally.

"We are here to raise awareness and fix the dark cloud associated with mental health illnesses. All of us can make a difference," said **Claire Vaillancourt**, whose role as the manager included welcoming visitors and helping them navigate through the expo.

The expo aligns with Lakota's commitment to increase students' access to quality mental healthcare by identifying a partner at every school through its partnership with MindPeace. Ridge Junior welcomed its partner, Solutions Counseling, this school year, giving students direct access to a therapist at school. [Click here to learn more about Lakota's partnership with MindPeace and its network of mental health providers.](#)





*Lakota East sophomores Michelle Antiri (left) and Courtney Lyden (right) present their vision of "Operation Incubation" to a room full of educators from districts participating in "Innovation Pitch Day," hosted by the Hamilton County ESC.*

## 'Operation Incubation' Means More Student-Led Impact at East

A group of students at Lakota East now have a blueprint for how to make more student-led ideas, like the recently transformed “Innovation Hub”, come to life in their school. It’s something that East junior **Leo Rolfert** and sophomores **Michelle Antiri** and **Courtney Lyden** are calling “Operation Incubation.”

Over about three months, the trio participated in a series of district bus tours and workshops offered by the Hamilton County Educational Service Center. Alongside East Principal **Suzanna Davis** and teacher **Kevin Keen**, they learned the science behind a unique process of ideation called “Innovation Engineering.” When challenged to apply it to their own idea, the group decided to put that same methodology to work at East.

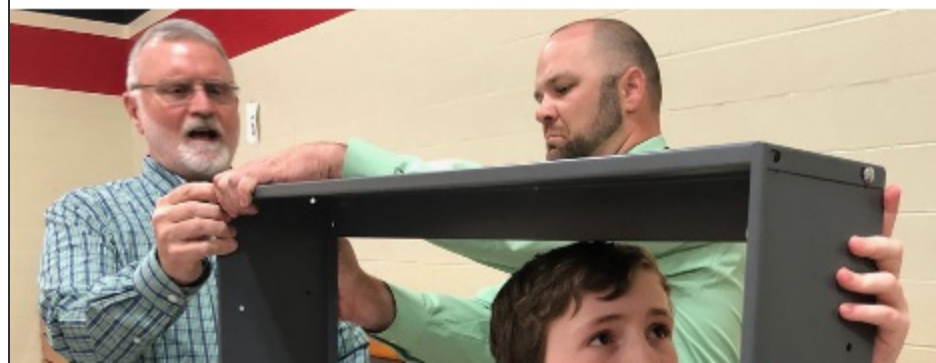
“Lakota East has focused on empowering our students to speak out. We gained student voice, but now what?” challenged Antiri during her group’s presentation on “Pitch Day,” where they were joined by two other groups from Madeira City Schools and Kings Local Schools, each presenting an idea to advance their school or district. She and Lyden went on to explain through their pitch how the “Innovation Engineering” process could be used at East to extract ideas from the student body that could improve the student experience and then accelerate their implementation.

“Operation Incubation would connect trained student facilitators with student innovators to accelerate big ideas,” said Lyden, reflecting on the group’s first attempt to practice their approach with the school’s Student Advisory Council. Through experimentation, the group modified their process, landing on five steps: Ideate, Connect, Plan, Pitch & Hatch.

The group plans to launch “Operation Incubation” at East in phases, using the beginning of next school year to train a team of student facilitators on the “Innovation Engineering” process and then building up to a school-wide roll out in April or May of 2020.

"Student voice has never been more powerful at East and it's all because our students take the initiative to make things happen," Davis said. "This project is a perfect example of that. The best way to empower students to run with their big ideas for the good of our school community is to give them a framework for bringing them to life. I am so proud of all that went into this big idea."





*Pictured above: Students at Freedom (bottom left) and Cherokee (bottom right) worked alongside members of the Rotary Club of West Chester to assemble their school's new mobile makerspace, gifted by the Rotary to each of Lakota's eight elementary schools. At top, Freedom students show off the result of their labors.*

## Rotary Swaps Makerspaces for Traditional Dictionary Donation

A donation from the Rotary Club of West Chester doubled as a hands-on learning experience for some Lakota elementary students.

Local Rotarians joined students at Freedom and Cherokee last week to help assemble the new mobile makerspaces that they gifted to each of Lakota's eight elementary schools. The carts are a welcome addition to each school's media center, which are gradually being transformed into innovation hubs - creative learning spaces marked by innovative learning tools that promote collaboration and creativity.

"With the redesigning of our media centers into Innovation Hubs and focusing our energy on personalized learning, the addition of these makerspaces has really helped us to build out this program," said Freedom Principal **Lance Green**. "These units will allow us to store more real life teaching tools to prepare our students for their future."

Makerspaces are dedicated areas that promote learning through play and experimentation. They are stocked with everyday tools and materials, like popsicle sticks, cotton balls and paper towel rolls for example, that encourage students to design, build, invent and experiment. Students are challenged to use the materials they have to solve a specific problem, or they have the freedom to come up with their own project ideas.

These spaces can already be found in most elementary schools' STEAM labs, giving students easy access to resources to practice critical thinking and problem-solving through design. The mobile element of the Rotary's donation gives schools the flexibility to use the resource in a variety of spaces throughout the building, including individual classrooms where it might lend itself to a particular lesson.

"The addition of more storage is a huge complement to our current space," said Independence Principal **Greg Finke**. "With over 110 students using the space each day, organization of materials is a key aspect for allowing students' creativity to be limitless."

The donation is the next generation of the Rotary's annual grant supporting Lakota schools, replacing its earlier tradition to provide a personal dictionary to every Lakota third-grader.



# 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit Awards

#WEaretakota





## **Volunteers Honored for their Passion & Support**

End-of-the-year awards programs have already begun – and on Wednesday, the District Parent Council hosted a ceremony to honor some very special people: our volunteers.

Those honored included not only parents of current students, but also grandparents and those who continue to volunteer even though their kids graduated years ago.

Since 1990, the Lakota district has honored a volunteer from each school (and one for the district), in memory of a dedicated Lakota parent, Barb Bossu, whose untimely passing in 1989 was mourned by all in our school community. The Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit Award is given to volunteers in recognition of their positive spirit, dedication to students and generosity of time and talent.

**Julie Shaffer**, Lakota Board of Education President (and a past Barb Bossu recipient) started the ceremony by sharing how this is a day that everyone in the district looks forward to. She quoted four-time #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Brené Brown: “Sometimes the bravest and most important thing you can do is just show up.”

And all 23 award winners do just that: they show up (a lot!). Shaffer told the volunteers: “You lead by example, showing our children and staff that you value education and that you value them.”

As each winner was called to the stage, they received a Lakota “swag bag”, flowers, and hugs of congratulations.

Principals presented the awards for their buildings and Superintendent **Matthew Miller** gave the award to the district volunteer. Miller echoed the sentiments of all of the principals: “We couldn’t do what we do for our kids without your passion, your love and your support.”

The winners of the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit Award include:

Lakota West: **Gina Miller**

Lakota West Freshman: **Cherie Walker**

Ridge Junior: **Lesley Ferguson**

Adena Elementary: **Jenni Kershaw**

Cherokee Elementary: **Ali Boger**

Creekside ECS: **Katie Duh**

Liberty ECS: **Angie McKnight**

Hopewell Junior: **Sarah Burkart**

Woodland Elementary: **Mary Youmell**

Independence Elementary: **Melissa Edkins**

Endeavor Elementary: **Emily Groh**

Union Elementary: **Jennifer Kegg**

Freedom Elementary: **Kathleen Hart**

Plains Junior: **Angel Wilhelm**

VanGorden Elementary: **Vanessa Weiss**

Shawnee ECS: **Mary Ellen “Grammy” Starling**

Wyandot ECS: **Grandpa Jack Rogers**

Heritage ECS: **Garnett Ferguson**

Hopewell ECS: **Stephanie Murray**

Lakota East: **Amy Stiefel & Libby Willms**

Liberty Junior: **Jennifer Geiger**

District: **Connie Spotts**

[View All  
District News](#)

## FEATURED PHOTOS







*The rain didn't dampen the success of Lakota's 2nd Annual Earth Day Celebration last weekend. The event included a planting station, live music, recycling education, games, live animals and treats for the whole family. The Hopewell ECS Book Heroes (pictured above) were also part of the fun day, handing out hundreds of free books to the community.*



*Lakota LEADS honored award winners from 18 schools across the district in its annual Write Challenge writing contest. Congratulations to these talented #WEAreLakota writers! [Click here to see the complete list of winners.](#)*







*The ABC Countdown until the last day of school is underway in Mrs. Striet's kindergarten classroom at Shawnee ECS (and other classrooms throughout the district). It all began last week with "A is for Apple" day and yesterday was "F for our Favorite Book" day (shown above). Follow the class on Twitter @striets\_tweets to see how they countdown each day.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### New Process for Alternative Transportation Requests

To ease the transition to a new school year and honor families' requests for alternative pick-up and drop-off locations for transportation, Lakota is enforcing a new deadline timeline.

By default, transportation for all eligible students is based on the home address listed in our student database. If your child will be needing transportation to or from an address different than their home address, please remember to complete a new [Transportation/Child Care Form](#) with current information. All alternative transportation plans are automatically cleared at the end of each school year, so please complete the form before each school year.

Please honor the following deadlines to receive transportation for the upcoming school year, beginning on the date indicated:

Form Submission Date	Transportation Available
July 22, 2019	First day of school
Aug. 14, 2019	Aug. 26, 2019
Aug. 15 - Sept. 3, 2019	Sept. 4, 2019
After Sept. 3, 2019	Forms processed within 48 hours.

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### 2019 Financial Prospectus Now Available

The 2019 edition of Lakota's Financial Prospectus is now available. The annual publication, distributed to West Chester and Liberty residents and businesses, is designed to provide a complete and in-depth view of the district's current financial situation in an easy-to-understand format.

The report shares with the community important financial information such as where the district receives funds, how the district prioritizes its spending, how the district operates in a fiscally responsible manner and how our taxes compare to neighboring and similar school districts. It also discusses how recent financial decisions has decreased the district's bond millage and the amount taxpayers are paying to Lakota annually.

[Click here to view the electronic edition of the 2019 Financial Prospectus.](#) Extra printed copies will be available at Lakota's Central Office or any Lakota school beginning next week.

## LATEST E-FLYERS

**E-Flyers is Lakota's convenient and eco-friendly way to distribute information about programs, classes, events and opportunities happening in our schools and around the community.**

Lakota is proud to partner with Peachjar to share these opportunities in a digital format. Look for district-approved flyers in your email inbox every Wednesday or click the button below to view all current flyers by district or school.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Event Spotlights*

- Tuesday, April 30  
**Military Commitment Ceremony**  
at Lakota East Freshman School  
7 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 1  
**Coffee Chat with the Superintendent**

## ON THE RADAR

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

### **Apply Now for Summer Internships**

Lakota is offering a host of summer internship opportunities for high school students. In partnership with our local business community, current opportunities range from business, education and engineering to

at Coffee Beans & Brew  
8 a.m.

- Wednesday, May 1  
**Community Forum for Parents on Suicide and Grief**  
at Lakota East Freshman  
7 p.m.
- Monday, May 6  
**Community Conversation: Open Forum Format**  
at Lakota East High School Innovation Hub  
6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 7  
**Fellas & Fiction**  
at X-Quisite Cutz  
6 p.m.
- Saturday, May 11  
**Lakota Spirit Day at FC Cincinnati**  
at Nippert Stadium  
1 p.m.
- Monday, May 13  
**Lakota Board of Education Meeting**  
at Plains Junior  
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, May 20  
**Parade of Graduates**  
at Elementary Schools  
10 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 22  
**Early Release**
- Thursday, May 23  
**Early Release and Students' Last Day**
- Thursday, May 22  
**Lakota East Graduation**

government, healthcare and marketing/communications -- some are even paid experiences!

Deadlines, applications and the application process varies. [Visit Lakota's internship webpage for details and to apply.](#)

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## **Lakota Military Commitment Ceremony April 30**

Lakota is inviting the community on April 30 to help honor this year's Lakota East and Lakota West graduates who have committed to serve our country through any branch of the U.S. Military.

The ceremony will take place at the Lakota East Freshman Campus from 7 to 8 p.m. Attendees are invited to meet our honorary students during an informal reception immediately following the program.

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## **Last Coffee Chat for 2018-19 School Year**

Lakota's next Coffee Chat is set for Wednesday, May 1 from 8-9 a.m. at Coffee Beans & Brew (7051 Yankee Road).

Superintendent Matthew Miller will be on hand for drop-in conversation with parents and residents. All are welcome to attend.

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## **May 6 Community Conversation has New Twist, Open Format**

Join us for a new type of Community Conversation as we begin to wrap up the school year. We're bringing the open forum format of our Coffee Chats to our Community Conversations. What topics you would like to see discussed in a Community Conversation format? [Click here to offer your suggestions](#) and then join us on Monday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lakota East Innovation Hub.

The Community Conversation program, now in its seventh year, allows school board members, the superintendent and other school district leaders



at Cintas Center  
8 p.m.

- Friday, May 23  
**Lakota West Graduation**  
at Cintas Center  
8 p.m.

**See Full  
Calendar**

to get input about Lakota schools and their operation from all our stakeholder groups.

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### **Free Haircuts at Fellas & Fiction**

Every month, all Lakota boys in grades 1-6 are invited to "Fellas & Fiction," a special community-sponsored early literacy program hosted in partnership with Lakota Schools. The next program will take place on Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. at X-Quisite Cutz (located at 7324 Kingsgate Way, Unit F in West Chester).

Young readers are encouraged to bring with them a male role model with whom they can read. Each reader receives a free haircut, made possible by the Community Foundation of West Chester Liberty.

**View the Fellas & Fiction event flyer to learn more.**

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### **May 11: Lakota Spirit Day at FC Cincinnati**

Lakota is excited to announce a Lakota Spirit Day with FC Cincinnati! The deadline to purchase discounted tickets is April 29.

Lakota families and staff are invited to take advantage of this special ticket pricing for May 11 when FC Cincinnati takes on Montreal at 1:00 p.m. at the University of Cincinnati's Nippert Stadium. Special activities are being planned to celebrate Lakota's presence at the game, including a halftime standoff and a post-game group photo, so come and show your Lakota spirit.

Visit the [FC Cincinnati group portal](#) and enter promo code **LAKOTA19** or call 513-977-KICK to claim your tickets.



(513) 874-5505

[lakota@lakotaonline.com](mailto:lakota@lakotaonline.com)

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