# A Look Around Lakota: E-News Edition

April 12, 2019



# In-School Mental Health Services







**In-School Therapists Provide Access to Mental Health Services** 

The statistics about children's mental health issues are staggering:

- Only 50 percent of children in Ohio with a mental health diagnosis receive care;
- 1 in 5 young people ages 13 to 18 years have a current mental, emotional, or behavioral disorder;
- 50% of all chronic mental illness begins by age 14; and
- Anxiety disorders and ADHD are earliest to emerge, often in the preschool and early school-age years.

Despite these numbers, the lack of awareness and stigma attached to mental health issues keep the majority of young people from getting help.

That's why Lakota is partnering with MindPeace, a local non-profit that connects its network of professional mental health providers with schools to increase student access to quality, affordable mental healthcare.

Lakota West first piloted the program during the 2016-17 school year, and since then the district has been working to bring it to every Lakota school.

"The safety and well-being of our students is a top priority," said **Lauren Brown**, Lakota's Manager of Health Care Services. "And strong mental health plays a vital role in a student's growth and success. A student who is struggling with stress, anxiety or other concerns cannot focus on school work."

Twelve Lakota school buildings currently have an onsite therapist available for consultation during the school day and after school hours, as needed. By the start of next school year, 15 schools will be part of the program, and by the 2020 school year the goal is to have a therapist working in all 23 Lakota buildings.

# By Fall 2020, all 23 Lakota schools will have an in-school therapist.

"Lakota has 195 students in active therapy across the district," added Brown. "If the caseload of the school therapist fills up, additional therapists will be added to meet the needs at the school. After all, the whole purpose of the program is to provide ready access to care."

In fact, because of the awareness and visibility of the program at Lakota West over the past few years, the school is now looking to bring on a second therapist to provide services to students, staff and parents.

MindPeace began as a project of the Junior League of Cincinnati (JLC) in 2002 to answer a significant need for an improved system of mental health care for children in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Hundreds of JLC volunteers devoted thousands of volunteer hours to develop a model for a seamless system of children's mental health and wellness with the help of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and many other community partners.

In 2007, the JLC launched MindPeace as its own non-profit which now works with 256 schools across the region. MindPeace serves as a technical advisor to facilitate the process of connecting its network of professional mental health providers with schools. The partnership is self-sustaining and does not require any financial investment by the school district.

Every school that participates puts together a team that consists of the principal, counselor, psychologist, nurse, regular and special education teachers and parents. Brown also participates on each team to help share best practices and take care of details at the district level.

The team conducts a needs assessment at the school that outlines the needs of students, parents and the staff at the building. MindPeace then sends the assessment to its 18 different mental health partners, and those with the staff capacity and expertise needed then apply.

The school team then interviews 2-4 partners before making a selection; after determining the partner, then team interviews individual therapists from the organization.

The whole process can take anywhere from 2-4 months. Currently Lakota schools work with four different partner organizations: Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Catalyst Counseling LLC, Solutions Counseling Center and Community First.

Woodland, Cherokee and Heritage elementary schools are currently in this selection process, with the goal to have a therapist on staff in early fall.

Once the program is established, each school has a monthly referral meeting to hear how things are going, discuss barriers to care, and troubleshoot and overcome any issues. Quarterly meetings are held at each school as well, and MindPeace meets with district administration twice a year to discuss how things are going and ways to improve.

#### Here's how the program works within the school...

Parents, teachers, school counselors and students can make student referrals for services. The therapist then contacts the family to fill out the necessary paperwork. Families can cover the cost of therapist visits through insurance, Medicaid or private pay options.

It can take anywhere from just 3 days to a few weeks from the time of referral until the student is seen by the therapist. If a student is in a crisis where there is the possibility of self-harm or harm to others, therapists can also provide immediate crisis intervention.

Therapists have an office at each school, and schedule appointments around student schedules to find the best time to meet, often during study hall or non-academic classes.

The convenience means that there is one less appointment that parents need to take work off for - or that the student needs to miss classes for. In fact, if the student sees the therapist during the school day, it does not count against attendance.

Therapists are available during the school day so if student is in crisis or needs to touch base, they can often do so.

Some students see therapists two times per week, others once a week. A nurse practitioner visits schools every two weeks to help therapists manage any medication needs.

After students have developed the skills needed to help manage their anxiety or depression or other issue, they might meet with the therapist every two weeks or every month. Once students meet their therapy goals and are discharged, the therapist is still available if needed.

Therapists also assist when re-integrating a student back into the school environment after receiving outside care to make sure they feel safe and supportive.

Services are available during the school year; this summer the high schools will have therapists available for Lakota students to see.

Therapists work not only with students, but with staff members as well. If parents give permission, the therapist can share ideas with the teachers to help. Therapists are also available as a resource to staff members; if a student is showing signs of struggling, the therapist can offer suggestions.

The top mental health issues that students are being seen for are anxiety, depression and thoughts of self-harm.

"Prevention is another important part of the MindPeace program," said Brown. "Some therapists have done programs like coffee chats with parents about mental health issues. One therapist did a mindfulness session with students using coloring to help them develop coping skills to manage emotions and feelings."

<u>Click here to see more</u> about the schools currently participating in the MindPeace program. In addition to their network of school-based providers, MindPeace also manages a comprehensive database of all the mental health providers in our region, along with other helpful resources to meet the needs of students and their families. <u>Click here to visit the MindPeace website to view the comprehensive list of providers and resources.</u>

"Our partnership with MindPeace is an important part of how we need to address the social and emotional needs of our students," said Ridge Junior Principal **Ben Brown**. "Providing easy access to services within the familiar school environment helps reduce the stigma attached to mental health issues."

# New Administrators for 2019-20 School Year

#### Welcoming New Administrators for the 2019-20 School Year

Preparation for the 2019-20 school year is underway as Lakota welcomes new administrators at six of its schools, as well as in five key district positions.

"In looking ahead to the next school year, I'm excited to welcome this group of administrators to Lakota. While some are brand new to Lakota, others are embracing a new role in the district," said Superintendent **Matthew Miller**. "I'm looking forward to seeing how our students will benefit from their leadership and the fresh ideas they will bring from their former positions and districts."

After serving as interim assistant principal at Creekside Early Childhood School (ECS) this semester, **Jessica Skelton** will return in the fall as the assistant principal. Prior to joining the Creekside staff, Skelton spent the last four years as a special education teacher in Lakota.

**Rebecca Francko** has been a teaching and learning consultant in Lakota since 2015. She will move into the assistant principal role at Wyandot ECS in the fall. This is Francko's first position as an administrator. Prior to coming to Lakota, Francko was a teacher and coach in West Carrollton.

**Nicole Isaacs** has been named the new assistant principal at Lakota West High School. For the past three years, Isaacs has been the principal at Lakota's Career Readiness Academy. Under her leadership, the Academy's enrollment has more than doubled.

Since 2014, **Matt MacFarlane** has served as an adaptive physical education and special education teacher in the district. In his new role, MacFarlane will be an assistant principal at Lakota East High School. Prior to coming to Lakota, he spent seven years at the Lockport School District as a teacher and coach.

**Mike Anderson** will be moving from guidance counselor at Lakota West, where he has served since 2014, to the assistant principal role at West Freshman. Prior to Lakota, Anderson spent 15 years as a teacher and then counselor at Princeton.

Melinda (Mindy) Reichelt has been named the new associate principal at the district's Career Readiness Academy. With a background in alternative school initiatives, Reichelt joins Lakota from Butler Tech where she was an instructional coach.

**Regina Kirchner** will be moving from Wyandot ECS, where she spent the last two years as assistant principal, to the assistant director of instruction (K-8) role. In this position, Kirchner will provide instructional support for Lakota's 18 K-8 buildings. After spending 12 years in the classroom in the district, Kirchner spent four years teaching at Wyoming before returning to Wyandot. She is also an adjunct professor at Xavier University.

**Justin Wilson** is moving from the assistant principal position at West Freshman to become the assistant director of instruction for grades 9-12 at Lakota West. In this new role, Wilson will provide instructional support for the freshman and main campuses. Prior to his two years as assistant principal at Lakota, Wilson taught at Forest Hills and Princeton.

Coming to Lakota from Finneytown, where she worked for 24 years, **Deana Moss** has been named the assistant director of instruction for grades 9-12 at Lakota East's main campus and freshman building. Moss has an extensive background in teaching, learning and curriculum.

**Brian Drake** and **Paula Hickey** will become assistant directors of special education for grades K-12. Their experience as teachers on special assignment in the special services department will serve them well in this new role. Drake and Hickey will be responsible for federal compliance and special education oversight.

**Sherri Copeland** has been named the director of special education for grades seven-eight. Copeland's experience in compliance and special education as a teacher on special assignment at Lakota has prepared her for this administrator role.

**Maureen Brenner** will be Lakota's new preschool director. Brenner joins the district from the Butler County Education Service Center where she was a preschool coordinator for Middletown City Schools. Prior to her role at the BCESC, Brenner was an administrator in Fairfield.



# **Destination Imagination Team Wins State, Headed to Global Finals**

Six third and fourth grade students from Adena and Freedom elementary schools are headed to the Destination Imagination global finals after winning at state. The "Space Oddities" team placed first overall and first in each category at the March 30 competition. The team members are:

Adena: Hayes Megee, Sydney Oliver and Lydia Miller

### West & East Student Artists Win State, National Titles

**2019 Cincinnati Overture Art Awards:** Over 400 entries from more than 100 schools competed in six different performing and visual arts categories this year. Visual Arts entries had to submit a portfolio of artwork that consisted of six-to-eight pieces of artwork.

Alyson Power from Lakota West won the visual arts category and received a \$4,000 scholarship for her award.

Also from West, Trey Small was also awarded a \$1000 finalist scholarship.

From Lakota East, Ryan Kmieske was named a semifinalist in this category.

**2019 Ohio Governor's Youth Juried Art Exhibition**: Winners of this art competition at the state level earn a spot in the 2019 Ohio Governor's Youth Juried Art Exhibition in Columbus, Ohio which opens April 22 and closes May 16 at the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower. With 11,500 entries at various regional locations, only 300 works were selected for the exhibition. Eight student artists from Lakota have won at this state competition.

#### Lakota West

Alyson Power for Scrambled Eggs Trey Small for Dear Mama Maddy Zimmerer for A Sunday in September

#### Lakota East

Julia Haug for Somewhere Mckenna Lewis for Ice Shack Jacob Wernke for Voltage Anastacia Hartinger for Rechen Alex Strack for Catching Dinner **2019 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards**: Over 340,000 artworks were entered across the nation at various regional sites with the hopes of progressing to the national competition. Representing the top 1% in the country by winning at this level, seven Lakota students came home victorious.

#### Lakota West

**Trey Small** made Lakota West history by winning the silver medal for his portfolio titled *For the Culture*. He also received a silver medal for his painting *Morning After*.

Alyson Power won two silver medals, one for her painting *Sleepy Head* and one for her drawing *Shaving Mishap*.

Jeanna Sharkey brought home a silver medal for her photograph Broken Neon Dreams.

Luke Wilson won the silver medal for his photograph Caution.

#### Lakota East

Kaylee Grayson won the silver medal for her metals piece Coral Reef Rebirth.

# East Senior Wins Big with Amazon

Hannah Nguyen was selected to receive a very special award from Amazon for her accomplishments in computer science. As one of the Amazon Future Engineer scholarship winners, Hannah will receive \$40,000 over four years for college. She will also participate in an internship with Amazon after completing her freshman year in college.

# LODI's Moore Named Human and Civil Rights Award Recipient

Lakota's **Aisha Moore** will be the recipient of the 2019 Ohio Education Association's Holloways/Human and Civil Rights Award. A member of LODI (Lakota Outreach Diversity and Inclusion), Aisha has led the district's Champions for Change program since it began in 2016.

Through representatives from each of the district's 23 schools, Champions for Change promotes inclusiveness and academic success for all of Lakota's students. Aisha's work with the Champions programs includes a "train the trainer" model where members received professional development and then share their knowledge with their building staff.

# East Students Win State, Headed to National Tech Competition

Twelve Lakota East and five East Freshman students are headed to the national Technology Student Association (TSA) competition after winning at the state level. These students are enrolled in STEAM2 through Lakota's partnership with Butler Tech. The students will travel to Washington D.C. to compete this summer.

#### Lakota East

- <u>Tech Problem Solving</u> Logan Tripp Caleb Regg
- Board Game Design
- Grace Silverberg Mackenzie Novean

Lisa Biehle

Logan Fox

**Animatronics** 

Eliana Bujwalo-Nowak Abigail Niehaus Hanna Everding Systems Control Technology Sara Schnetzer Megan Sheth Allison Kessling

#### Lakota East Freshman

Webmaster Competition

Ashton Gibbs Nick Lewis Connor Miranda Jack Nomina Anthony Walsh

# **AROUND LAKOTA**



#### After School Homework Clubs Provide Extra Help

What started as a group of school administrators, teachers and aides traveling to a neighborhood has grown into a popular after school activity. Several Lakota elementary schools are offering extra help for students through homework clubs.

Thanks to staff and volunteers, Adena, Cherokee, Independence and Woodland each have a club that meets after school, providing help in subjects like English Language Arts, reading and math. **Greg Finke**, principal at Independence Elementary School, said the school has had a homework club, which is now run by Whiz Kids - a volunteer outreach program - through City Gospel Mission, for the past 12 years. "It has been a tremendous support for students who needed some extra attention to be successful in school."

Students meet one-to-two times per week after school for a little extra assistance. All of the schools have volunteers who help out, including parents and students from junior schools as well as Lakota East and West. "It is heartwarming to see Adena teachers, former students who are now at Ridge and West, PTO parents and a variety of volunteers support our All-Stars," said Principal **John Mattingly**. "Everyone is simply 'All-In' in wrapping our arms around our learners!"

Woodland's club, which began in 2014, averages about 40 students at its weekly sessions. The club is focusing more on the school's third grade English language learners this year. **Leah Aguilar**, one of Lakota's community liaisons, oversees the clubs at Woodland and Cherokee. She sees many benefits for the participating students, including relationships with consistent adults and high school student volunteers, as well as support for parents who may be unable to help their children with homework.

Likewise, Cherokee's homework club has been serving students since 2014 and sees about 55 students per week. Volunteers help with all subject areas and students have access to iPads and computers, should they need internet access. "They can work with each other to discuss their ideas and areas they are struggling with on assignments," said Principal **Valerie Montgomery.** "Overall, it is a positive learning environment for these kids, and the volunteers too."



A project-based learning exercise in Andree Philpot's language arts class at Liberty Junior School empowered students like (clockwise from top left) Tia Cicchetti, Graham Allen, Katie Loftus, Megan Hiatsch and Wyatt Airgood to turn their research about an environmental issue into action.

# **Real World Learning: Liberty Students Put Research into Action**

When given the creative freedom to tailor a recent research project to their passions and interests, eighth-graders in **Andree Philpot**'s language arts class at Liberty Junior School ended up creating an impact that reached far beyond their school's walls.

"My goal for this project was to empower my students to know that they have the ability to make a difference in this world, and to give them the opportunity to do so," said Philpot, who was encouraged by academic coach **Amy Alexander** to pursue the project based learning activity. While students were limited to zooming in on one environmental issue, making a claim and then taking action to help resolve it in some way, the rest was up to them.

"I knew that I liked the project because it gave them so much choice," Philpot said. "But I didn't realize just how much that element of choice would impact their results, not to mention their pure excitement for the project."

Philpot estimated that her students' projects - completed individually or in pairs - collectively reached over 1,000 people with calls to action on everything from endangered species, recycling and waste to pollution, climate change and urban sprawl. Their results are even more impressive:

- At least 80 pounds of plastic kept from landfills, oceans and waterways;
- Over 500 pieces of paper saved and 20 pounds recycled;
- 50,000-plus straws and plastic bags saved;
- Over 50 pounds of fabric and textile waste kept from clogging landfills;
- Over 100 plastic water bottles not used;
- And so much more that Philpot and her students couldn't calculate.

Among the vehicles her students used for building awareness: websites, blogs, podcasts, infographics, board games, social media, brochures, a YouTube channel, documentaries and more.

"I created an actual website. I've never done that before," said **Graham Allen**, who chose to tap into his love for animals and educate people about how a lower carbon footprint can positively impact polar bears' lifespan.

Another pair of students, **Katie Loftus** and **Megan Haitsch**, took the initiative to partner with an organization called 4Ocean, which makes and sells bracelets made entirely out of plastic pulled from the ocean. In addition to a blog that they promoted via social media, the pair dedicated 20 donated bracelets (valued at \$400) to incentivizing their classmates to sign a pledge to refrain from using disposable plastics like water bottles and utensils. Loftus and Hiatsch credits part of the success of their project to easy access to technology through the school's recent rollout of Chromebooks for all students. From their research to their blog and other promotional items they created, they used their devices every step of the way, noting that the alternative would have been posterboard.

**Tia Cicchetti**, who takes a special interest in fashion, was upset to learn that rapidly changing fashion trends mean unused clothes in our landfills. She partnered with a recent "Project Runway" participant to recycle fabric scraps into scrunchies. Her product drove a full-blown awareness campaign.

As a way to protest against the use of nuclear energy and fossil fuels, **Wyatt Airgood** engineered his own wind turbine to power a light bulb. "I wanted to show that if an 11-year-old can make something like this out of stuff from my own house, then anyone can do it."

"I hope this project helped them to see that language arts is so much more than reading books and then writing about them," Philpot said. And based on Hiatsch's assessment, it appears she got the message. "It opened my eyes to what's going on in our world. Without this project, I wouldn't have cared about where the plastic I use ends up."

I am always a very prepared person, so I think most people find it a surprise when I am not 100% sure what I want to major in. As a freshman, I think that is good that you haven't completely decided what to major in. You still have so much time to explore what you are interested in and what new cool problems are out there that you want to help find a solution for. Similar to you, I always knew that I wanted to help people too. Something to keep in mind, that I wish I knew in high school is that every single kind of engineer can help people. A ton (maybe most) of the people that work in the biomedical industry on drugs and medical devices have majors outside of biomedical engineering.

One thing that I am feeling very pressured about now is having a good college resume. Try not to stress out about it too much. I tried to do every club in high school and in the end, I think it is definitely better to just pick like three things to be really involved in than ten things that you are kinda involved in. I can send you my resume if you think that would help.

# Engineering Pen Pal Progra

Lakota high school students can ask questions and get advice through a pen pal program with OSU engineering students.

#### Lakota High School Students Get College Advice through Engineering Pen Pal Program

Lakota East, West students are getting advice about engineering, preparing for college and more through a pen pal program with the Ohio State University Chapter of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE).

**Sarah Shaffer**, a 2016 Lakota West graduate serves as the chapter's Outreach Director. The club has initiatives geared toward students in grades K-1; a pen pal program was started last year to connect OSU students with current high school students.

"It's an easy way for students to get an idea of what college is like and to ask questions about engineering," said Shaffer. "Many Lakota students go to OSU, so this program is a really good fit."

The SWE Chapter works with four different high schools, including Lakota East and West. High school students are identified through each school's Women in Science and Engineering Club.

Currently there are 40 girls paired as part of the pen pal program which started at the beginning of the school year. All participants take an initial survey about majors and other interests to help create the best matches possible.

Popular topics discussed include majors, classes, college essays and scholarships.

East senior **Cali Hoffman** said, "Through the pen pal relationship, I have been able to ask questions about college and what classes would be most beneficial to me in high school. Overall, I have been able to gain a mentor that is more than willing to help me out whenever I may need it!"

**Bailey Betz**, who is a junior at Lakota East, added, "The pen pal program really allowed me to be able to express my love for science with someone who feels the same way I do! Also, it was honestly amazing to be able to talk to someone with a similar major because I was able to ask a ton of questions about what the coursework is like and what college is like too. It helped alleviate much of the anxiety I had about college, and made me more excited than ever about what lies ahead!"



A Lakota West parent group is fundraising for a remembrance garden to honor the lives of former students lost too soon. The design calls for 160 square feet made up of clay pavers, two benches, a tree, shrubs and flowers to the right of the school's main entrance.

# Parents Plan Garden to Remember West Students Lost Too Soon

Plans for a garden at the main entrance to Lakota West High School is so much more than a beautification effort. The new gathering space, scheduled to begin in July, will be a place for the school community to remember the lives of former Lakota West students lost too soon.

"For us, it is a way to honor their short lives and a reminder to all of us that we are not guaranteed tomorrow," said **Joan Stoltz**, one of eight people who are committed to seeing this project through. She is joined by five other Lakota West parents who have lived through the untimely death of their child.

"We want to give back to their school a place of beauty to enable them to remember their beautiful lives," Stoltz continued.

The group turned to a local landscaping company to draw up the plans for the remembrance garden, which calls for 160 square feet made up of clay pavers, two benches, a tree and shrubs and flowers surrounding it. The garden would be situated in a highly visible, grassy area to the right of the main entrance.

"This is right outside my office window, so every time I look out I will think of the strength of these young people and their families," said Principal **Elgin Card** in <u>a recent Journal-News story about this special project</u>. "Our hope is this will be a place for families and friends to visit and remember all the positive times they had with their loved ones."

The group has raised approximately \$4,000 toward its total fundraising goal of \$14,000 via a <u>Go Fund Me fundraising site</u>. Check donations may also be made payable to the Lakota West PTSO and dropped off or mailed to Lakota West at 8940 Union Centre Boulevard. With their next meeting scheduled for April 17 at 7 p.m. at the Union Centre Panera Bread, the group welcomes new members.



# **BCESC/Lakota Preschool Relocating to VanGorden in August**

The Butler County Educational Service Center and Lakota preschool program will have a new home for the 2019-20 school year; the program will move to VanGorden Elementary School in the fall.

The decision to consolidate the program to one school is a result of the recent enrollment study the district commissioned. "The enrollment study is forecasting significant growth for our early childhood schools in the coming years," said **Andrea Longworth**, executive director of special services for the district. "By moving the majority of our preschool classrooms to VanGorden, it will help to alleviate space constraints at our ECS buildings," she continued.

Currently, the preschool program is located at Lakota's six early childhood schools. Two classrooms will remain at Liberty ECS.

With 25 new housing developments coming to the area, Chief Operations Officer **Chris Passarge** said that it was time to update the enrollment forecast. "We are always evaluating our buildings, not only for current upkeep and maintenance, but also looking ahead," he said. "We have concerns with overcrowding in some schools and this move will help not only in the fall but will also prepare us for future growth."

"Choosing VanGorden was a natural choice as enrollment is not forecasted to reach building capacity in the 10-year study," noted Passarge.

"We are excited to have our youngest learners together in the fall," said Longworth. "It opens the doors to new opportunities and collaboration for both our teachers and our students."

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# **FEATURED PHOTOS**



The Lakota West Symphonic Winds had the honor of performing at Music Hall as part of WindFest 2019 on April 1. This was the second time the group was invited to perform at this prestigious event, where they performed alongside the Mason Wind Symphony and the Filmore Wind Band, Cincinnati premier Wind Band.



French students at Lakota West Freshman immersed themselves in the French language by developing a restaurant and creating a simulation experience. It gave students in Vanessa Schmitt's classes the chance to dive deeper into learning French vocabulary.



Lakota students presented their cultural talents through displays, poetry, art, fashions (pictured above) and much more at Lakota's first Culture Fest, held at IKEA West Chester on April 6.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Lakota Adds May 6 Open Forum Community Conversation to Year-End Roster

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? <u>Click here to offer your suggestions</u> and then join us on Monday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lakota East Innovation Hub.

Another conversation, scheduled for April 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Lakota East's community room, will focus on the new social-emotional learning standards and how Lakota will include them in their educational program. Lakota Behavior Specialist Tina Pratt, who helped draft the standards, will lead the session with a brief overview.

The Community Conversation program, now in its seventh year, allows school board members, the superintendent and other school district leaders to get input about Lakota schools and their operation from all our stakeholder groups. The sessions are engaging and energizing and help guide school leaders in making decisions. All are welcome to attend.

#### **April 'Listen Up Lakota' Features Military Enlistment as Post-Graduation Option**

This month's edition of "Listen Up Lakota," a monthly radio program powered by 89.3FM WMKV, will feature special guests Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller and two senior students, Grace Keith from Lakota East and David Germanozashvili from Lakota West, who have committed to a branch of the U.S. military.

Looking forward to Lakota's Military Commitment Ceremony on April 30, Miller talks about how "Enlistment" is one of the district's four postgraduate goals, referred to as the "4E's".

Tune in at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 19 or 1 p.m. or Thursday, April 25 on 89.9FM WLHS or 89.3FM WMKV. You can also stream it live at WMKVFM.org or download the WMKV app. The interview will be available as a podcast on the station's website after the first air date. WLHS/WMKV is a member-supported public radio with its studios located at Maple Knoll Village in Springdale.

Lakota Celebrates Earth Day April 20

Lakota families are invited to help build commUNITY and "Save the Species" on Earth Day 2019. Together with the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance, Lakota will host a family friendly afternoon on Saturday, April 20 from 2-4 p.m. at the Square at Union Centre in West Chester.

The goal of the event is to grow relationships within the Lakota community. Families are invited to enjoy the Hopewell ECS Book Heroes, a planting station, live music, games, a recycling education, live animals and treats.

#### **April 13: Community Invited to After Prom Preview**

Lakota East will hold its After Prom preview from 7:30-9 p.m. this Saturday, April 13. This year's theme is "Wild, Wild EAST" and the community is invited to attend the free open house on Saturday evening. Come see Main Street transformed with bandanas, burlap, a bucking bull and more!

# **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

Monday, April 15
 **Community Conversation: Social-Emotional Learning**

# **ON THE RADAR**

Announcements & Opportunities

**Apply Now for Summer Internships** 

at the Lakota East Community Room 6:30 p.m.

- Thursday, April 18
  Storytime with the Superintendent at IKEA West Chester 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 19 Monday, April 22 No School: Easter Break
- Monday, April 22
  Board of Education Work Session at Plains Media Center 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 24
  Barb Bossu Volunteer Awards Program at Lakota East High School 9:30 a.m.
- Friday, April 26
  Fanfare for Students at Freedom Elementary at Freedom Elementary 8 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 30
  Military Commitment Ceremony at Lakota East Freshman School 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 1
  Coffee Chat with the Superintendent at Coffee Beans & Brew 8 a.m.
- Saturday, May 4
  CommUnity University at Miami VOA Learning Center 8 a.m.

Lakota is proud to offer 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 government, healthcare and marketing/communications.

We've just added a paid Summer Project Coordinator internship at Planes Companies. New opportunities are continuously being added and applications are still being accepted for the following experiences:

- Lakota LEADS Camp Potential
- Camp Invention
- Necessary & Proper Consulting
- West Chester Township
- UC Health West Chester Hospital
- Cincinnati Children's Liberty
- WLHS 89.9 / WMKV 89.3 FM Radio
- Butler County Visitors Bureau
- Sanmar
- Various Views Research

Deadlines vary and run through May. <u>Visit Lakota's internship webpage for</u> more details and to apply.

#### 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.

"At Lakota, we value those students who choose enlistment as a postgraduation option," said Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller. "Honoring them in this way for their commitment and service to our country is the least we can do. I look forward to celebrating their choice among their families and others in our community."

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.

#### See Full Calendar

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

Lakota is excited to announce a Lakota Spirit Day with FC Cincinnati!

Lakota families and staff are invited to take advantage of special ticket pricing for the May 11 game. FC Cincinnati will take 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 <u>FC Cincinnati group portal</u> and enter promo code LAKOTA19 or call 513-977-KICK to claim your tickets.



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