

A Look Around Lakota: E-News Edition

March 8, 2019





State of the Schools Preview Video

March 13: Students Take Center Stage at State of the Schools

Don't Miss School Showcase and Video Premiere

“Students tell our story best,” said Lakota Superintendent **Matthew Miller**.

That’s why students will take center stage at Lakota’s second annual “State of the Schools,” happening next Wednesday, March 13. Together with Miller and other staff, students will help share evidence of Lakota’s progress toward a more personalized, future ready K-12 experience for all students.

“The event is as much as a chance to share information about our schools as it is a celebration of all the hard work our students and staff put in every day,” Miller said. “I encourage students, staff, parents, and residents to attend. It’s a great way to get a lot of information all at once and to see firsthand all the learning happening district-wide.”

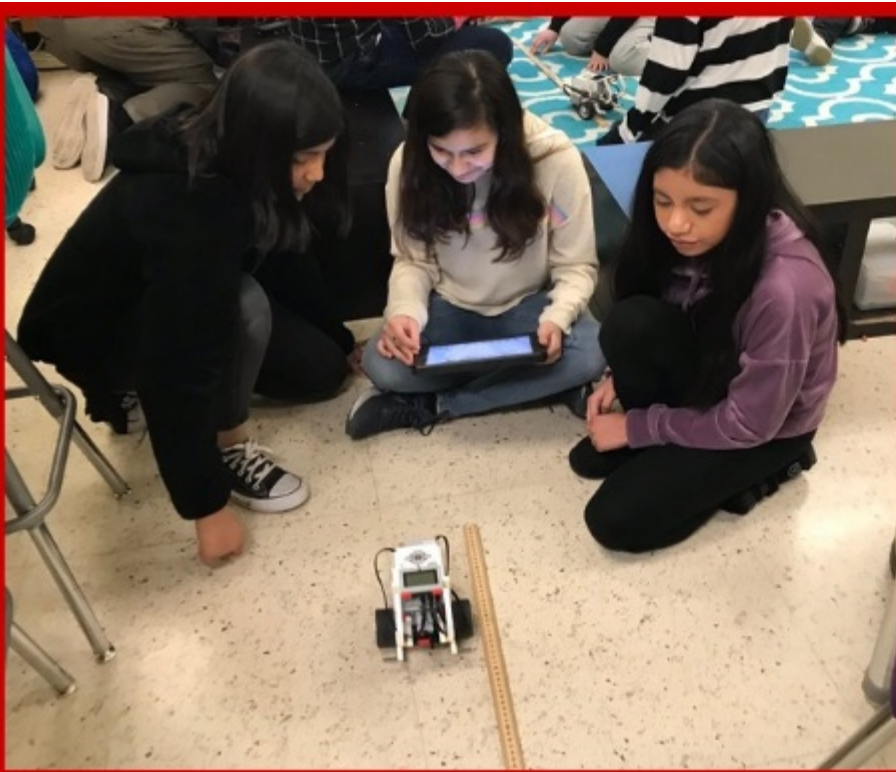
From new innovative learning spaces to community engagement and business partnerships, the full program will cover a range of current examples and future plans supporting the district’s recently approved strategic plan. Speakers include:

- **Amber Szpak** (Junior, Career Readiness Academy)
- **Moriah Walker** (teacher, Liberty Junior) and **Emily Fuller** (7th grade, Liberty Junior)
- **Alyssa Longworth** (senior, Lakota East) and **Amitoj Kaur** (senior, Lakota West)
- **Kevin Keen** (teacher, Lakota East)
- **Lora Broz** (freshman, Lakota West) and **Grace Phair** (senior, Lakota East)
- **Samuel Dragon** (6th grade, Endeavor)
- **Reese Anzalone** and **Brendan Murphy** (8th grade, Plains Junior)

New this year is a school showcase immediately preceding the program. Every school will be sharing a program or activity that defines the student experience there. Stop by each school’s booth to hear from students and staff about what’s happening in our schools.

Lakota will also premiere the first installation in a new video series to be released throughout the remainder of the school year. [Click here to view a teaser of the “WE are Here for You” video featuring students and staff from every Lakota school.](#)

Plan to attend the student showcase at 6:15 and stay for the “State of the Schools” program beginning at 7 p.m. The event will take place on Main Street at Lakota East High School, located at 6840 Lakota Lane.



Lakota Learning Day




Celebrating Lakota Learning Day

It's not just the classrooms that look different... rows of desks have been replaced with flexible seating options like comfy chairs and standing desks. But learning has taken on a whole new look as well.

Last week, Lakota turned National Digital Learning Day into Lakota Learning Day to celebrate these changes.

"It really isn't just digital learning, or personalized learning, or social emotional learning, etc. that makes a difference," said Director of Digital Learning **Krista Heidenreich**. "It's all of it! It's just good learning." Across the district, staff members used #LakotaLearningDay on Twitter to showcase this learning.

Creekside ECS second-graders worked to raise money to purchase animals for communities in Uganda as an extension of a unit on economics. But the project didn't stop there. Instructional Coach **Jenny Haynes** created a virtual reality tour of communities in Uganda and embedded information about which animals were purchased by students and what those animals offer the community. The students were so excited – and it sparked their desire to learn. Just look at this tweet Haynes posted.

This.  After our VR tour to Uganda:
Student: Mrs. Haynes, we are studying history now. Could you make
a VR tour of the Civil War times?

Me: Why yes, YES I CAN!  [#needmorehoursinday](#)
[#WEareLakota](#) [#WeareEmpowered](#)



Other examples included two full science classes doing a blended lesson using google sheets, an art class doing group collaboration study of sculpture, and Woodland third- and sixth-graders working together to teach one another about Quizlet, an online learning tool.

Community business leaders even got to participate in Lakota Learning Day. During a visit to Lakota East's Innovation Hub for a Cyber Academy Advisory Board meeting, they joined in as East ASL students skyped with West ASL students to practice finger-spelling. The visitors were impressed with the personalized, future-ready learning that was happening in the district and one business leader commented that "these are exactly the type of spaces we either have or we are building for our employees."

Lakota's Technology Department worked closely with the Curriculum & Instruction Department to rebrand Digital Learning Day to Lakota Learning Day. "It is great to be able to truly partner with the tech department to design, implement and celebrate great learning. That doesn't happen in many places," said **Keith Koehne**, Lakota's Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction.

Chief Technology Officer **Todd Wesley** agreed. "It's exciting to watch how we have evolved to celebrate the great things that make up Lakota Learning, including the purposeful application of technology as a learning tool, not the focus."

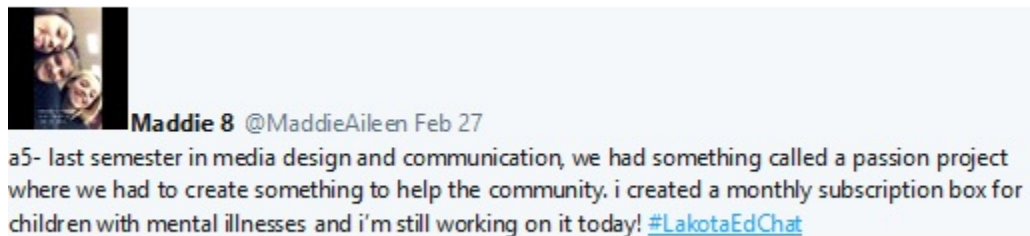
Last week Wesley announced a new partnership with the International Society of Technology in Education (ISTE). "Lakota is one of the first districts in the world to provide an ISTE membership to our entire staff," said Wesley. "This gives staff access to world class resources in support of our student-centered mission."

Innovation Hubs across the district also give students access to new learning resources. Last week, [this video highlighting opportunities made possible by these Innovation Hubs was featured in the #FutureReady Film Festival.](#)

Another reason to celebrate was the launch of the 1:1 Chromebook initiative for junior high and high school students. Lakota even announced a pilot program where WiFi has been added to a bus at each junior high with the longest route for students.

Lakota Learning Day actually expanded into Lakota Learning Week. There was a special #LakotaEdChat for staff and students on Wednesday, along with a week-long #LakotaSlowChat.

This student post from the EdChat shows that personalized, student-centered learning inspires students well beyond the classroom.



Lakota's new mission statement reflects that: *Everything WE do is designed to provide a future ready, student-centered learning experience for every single child.* "Bringing all of these learning options together for our students is the cornerstone of Lakota's [new strategic plan](#)," said Superintendent **Matthew Miller**.

On Friday, as the district brought the week-long celebration of Lakota Learning to a close, several students across the district gave shout-outs to their teachers on Twitter – [including this group of West Freshman students.](#)

"It is so important that we take opportunities like Lakota Learning Day to share and celebrate the amazing learning experiences in our classrooms, but also to bring forth, in a big way, the energy that is created when we do what's best for kids," said Heidenreich.

Be sure to follow [Team Inspire's Twitter Feed](#) to continue watching Lakota Learning in action.

SHOUT-OUTS

SHOUT OUTS



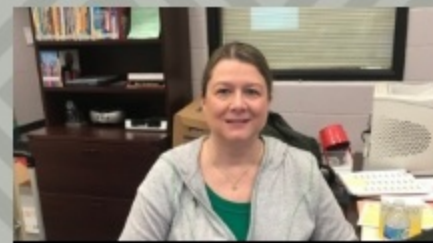
East's McDonald Wins State



West Swimmers Qualify for State



Chen Wins Art Exhibition



**Staff Spotlight:
Holly Vonderhaar**



**Lakota East & West Students
Qualify for SkillsUSA State Competition**



Woodruff Qualifies for State

East Swimmer Crowned State Champion

Lakota East junior **Jacob McDonald** became the third swimmer in the district's history to bring home a state title. Finishing the 500 freestyle with a time of 4:22.17, Jacob won the title and capped-off a stellar season, which includes setting four East records. The school celebrated by treating Jacob to a ticker-tape parade down Main Street. Congratulations, Jacob!

West Swimmers Qualify for State Championship

Two additional swimmers from Lakota West High School headed to Canton to compete in the state competition. Congratulations to:

Michael Lorenz (100 Back)

Jacob Ortwein (500 Free)

East, West Students Headed to State Competition

Students from Lakota East and West high schools, through our partnership with Butler Tech, placed in the top three spots during SkillsUSA competitions. They will now compete at the Ohio SkillsUSA state competitions in April.

Lakota East:

Kyle Dombrowski, 2nd place, CNC Milling

Lakota West:

Conner Japiske, 2nd place, Advertising Design

James Drake, 3rd place, Welding

East Artist Featured in Middletown Art Exhibit

Lakota East junior **Selena Chen** earned first place in the mixed media category in a Middletown art exhibition called “Tomorrow’s Artist Today.” The exhibit showcases work submitted from area high school juniors and seniors. Her painting, titled “Pollution at Sea,” is on display through March 14 at the Middletown Arts Center.

East Gymnast Earns Ticket to State Tournament

A spirited school tradition sent Lakota East gymnast **Tiyanna Woodruff** off to the state tournament in fanfare fashion last Friday. Staff and students lined Main Street to cheer her on in the two individual events she qualified for at the Southwest District Championships. The All-District team member finished 27th on bars and tied for 14th on the vault. Congratulations Tiyanna!

Heritage Media Aide Starts Birthday Book Club Tradition

Media aide **Holly Vonderhaar** is the impetus behind a new birthday tradition at Heritage Early Childhood School that is encouraging students to leave their mark on Heritage and promote a love of reading. On their birthdays, students are invited to donate a book to the school library collection. Holly sees 29 classes every week and consistently goes above the call of duty, visiting classrooms that have missed their library time with a book cart to ensure every child has a new book to ready. Thank you, Holly, for your dedication!

AROUND LAKOTA



Early Childhood Students Go Sledding without Snow

Lack of snow didn't stop students at Hopewell and Shawnee early childhood schools from getting some sledding in last week. Students paired up in teams to race sleds they built during a unique class collaboration.

Tara McDonnell and **Tracy Henderson** teach Wonder Lab and Physical Education, respectively, at the schools. Combining their classes, students used lessons they learned in Wonder Lab to create sleds they would then race in gym class. "We both had actually seen an idea to use cardboard to create sleds, not knowing the other had seen it," explained McDonnell. "It seemed the perfect combination of Wonder Lab - creating and making the sleds with a team - and Physical Education - racing the sleds (through) teamwork and good sportsmanship."

For two weeks, McDonnell brought her students to the gym to join Henderson's classes. During station rotation, students experienced aspects from both classes, such as using construction paper under their shoes to "ice skate," building snowmen from hula hoops, beanbags and scarves, using the Rigamajig building and construction set from Wonder Lab and, of course, building sleds.

Armed with cardboard, felt and duct tape, generously donated by families and staff, students used their imagination to create their masterpieces that would then be used to race. **Miles Hader**, a first grader at Hopewell, was very enthusiastic about his choices in duct tape. "They had Clemson and the Bengals and Michigan tape!" he exclaimed. It was a true collaboration in building the sleds, with one group picking up where the other left off during the rotations.

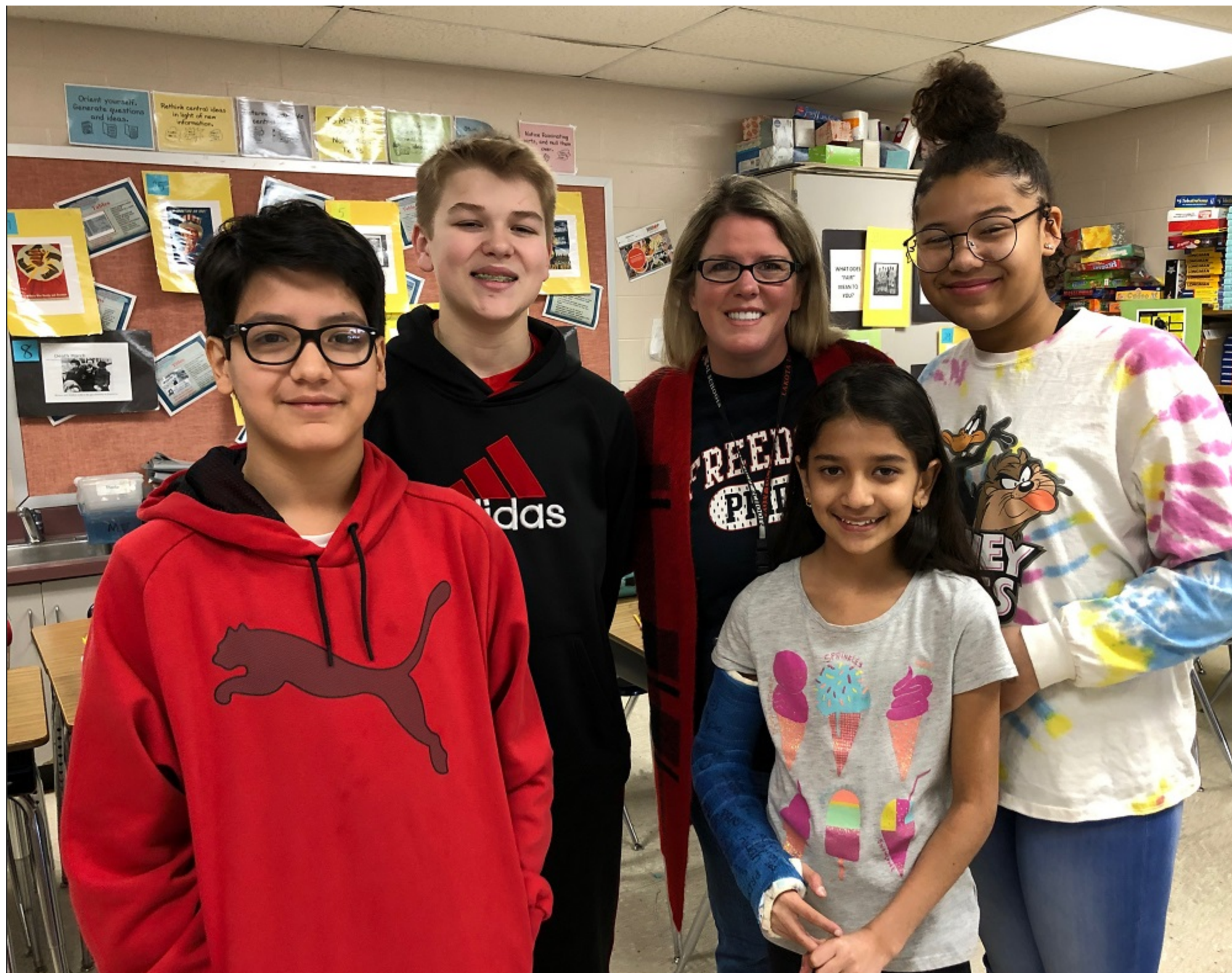
When race day arrived, it wasn't just about the end result. McDonnell asked the students to think about their sleds, wanting them to consider what might affect the outcome of each race. "None of the sleds are exactly the same," she told the class. "Some have more tape than others. Some have more cardboard. Could that make a difference?"

Holding onto a jump rope near their waist, one student pulled the sled while their partner sat on it, holding the ends of the jump rope. The students raced across the gym, stopping to stack giant cups before trading spaces and racing back to the start. Hader thought racing the sleds indoors was amazing. His classmate, **Julie Rosenberry**, agreed. "The ground is smooth," she explained. "The sleds can work better because it's smooth."

While students often participate in group work during their school day, collaboration with other classes, including other grade levels, was a bit out of the ordinary. "It was inspiring to see some of our second graders taking on leadership roles and our kindergartners enjoying working with the big kids," said Henderson. One of the second graders at Hopewell even renamed the special "Wondergym" as a nod to the combination of classes.

The teachers, who also happen to be twin sisters, had goals in mind beyond race day. They wanted students to work together to experience a common goal, problem solve and demonstrate good sportsmanship. When asked whether we can expect more collaboration in the future, they said, "stay tuned."

"We enjoyed collaborating together, which is something we've never done in the 20 plus years we've been teaching," said McDonnell.



Freedom Sixth-Graders Present Ted Talks

Most adults have probably watched, or at least heard of, Ted Talks. Elementary students? Not so much. However, sixth-graders at Freedom Elementary School have not only watched Ted Talks, they've presented the short, powerful speeches in front of their peers.

Glenda Fries is the teacher behind this project based learning exercise in her English Language Arts classes. "(The assignment) has all of the components of an essay, but the students are presenting as a Ted Talk," said Fries. "It's really about being prepared and presenting - it's life skills."

The students were asked to think about a topic that is familiar to them and then tasked with digging deeper by researching the subject to become an expert. **Londyn Dennis** chose self confidence and self esteem as her topic. "It's something that needs to be talked about more in school and more among students," she explained when asked why she chose that topic. "For me, I just wanted them to know that they need to have more self confidence," she continued. "It's not fair for someone to be put down for not having the coolest new Jordan's or... petty stuff, basically. I feel like they shouldn't have to worry about that."

To prepare for the project, Fries showed her students examples of Ted Talks, including one by a six-year old child, telling the class "if a six-year old can do this, I know you can!" Another example was a Ted Talk about nothing. In this example, Fries had the students watch the presenter's body language and the way he was able to command the stage. "Body language is important (when presenting)," she told the class. "You don't want to show your nerves." Fries encouraged the students to "own" the space by thinking of it as a clock, with 6:00 behind them. "You don't want to move towards 6:00 because you'll be pulling away from your audience."

Dennis took that lesson to heart. "You want to catch people's attention on both sides of you," she noted, appreciating Fries' clock method to help remind the students to move.

Another twist to the assignment was audience feedback to the presenters. Fries had the students complete a rubric while watching actual Ted Talks, which they also used during their fellow classmates' presentations. "Students should feel comfortable in this environment," she

said. "Asking a question, making a comment and providing feedback in a constructive way." In addition to their speech, students also created a two-to-three slide presentation to go along with their talk.

LJ Green delved into why NBA referees are missing calls. Also a basketball player, Green said that missed calls in his league affect the outcome of the game and also a player's mindset. **Prashi Vatsal** chose to explore chemicals in food, which is a topic she has grown up around. "My mom is the reason why I chose this topic," she said, explaining that her mom's passion for healthy food has increased her knowledge on the subject. "A lot of people are dying from cancer so people are always trying to say fundraise to help cancer, and so this is a way to help prevent cancer or not get sick."

In addition to Fries' clock method, **Juan Diego** involved the audience from the get-go, asking "how many of you have been bullied by someone you trust or trusted?" His passion for the topic shone through as he not only spoke about statistics, but also personal experience. "It was an assignment I could finally get a message out about something I believe in," he said.

Self-reflection also played a role in the assignment. Students learned that they have the confidence to speak in front of a large group of people. Diego summed up a deeper lesson learned as well: "I have a voice to change things."



Historical crime detective author Brian Forschner visited Lakota West creative writing teacher Eileen Washburn's class, talking to them about the creative process behind his most recent book turned into a stage play.

Speaker Series Gives West Creative Writers New Perspective

“Writing is hard work.”

“Just get it on paper.”

Coming from someone who writes for a living, these words seemed to carry a lot of weight for the Lakota West students sitting in **Eileen Washburn**’s creative writing class last week. Historical crime detective author Brian Forschner was the class’s first visitor in a three-part speaker series Washburn had planned for her students.

“I write for myself, so I don’t have an extensive knowledge about rejection, publishing, pitching a film, and so many other areas that the students are interested in learning about,” said Washburn, who takes every opportunity to tap into other people’s networks to connect her students with professional writers.

Her most recent networking led her to Forschner, who captivated Washburn’s class for 90 minutes with the tale of his journey writing a book that has also been adapted into a play coming to the Aronoff Theatre’s stage this May. His book, titled “Cold Serial: The Jack the Strangler Murders,” reopens the unsolved case of a century-old series of murders in Dayton, Ohio and goes on a quest to discover the truth.

Forschner explained that his initial discovery of the case and inspiration for his book was more of an accident - just something he stumbled upon during a regular visit to the library. But the intense research that followed was evidence to Washburn’s students of just how hard writing can be.

Following another visit from Andrew Eisen, writer of the feature film “Youth in Oregon,” Washburn welcomed the final speaker into her classroom in a less traditional format. Using Google Hangout, students spoke with Jay Martinez, a California-based screenwriter. “Without technology, we wouldn’t have had this opportunity. He was able to interact with the kids and even workshopped with them. They loved it!,” Washburn said.

Washburn has been known to use digital tools to engage her students in other ways, too, including regular videos with writing tips by famous authors. She also uses the district’s learning management system, Canvas, to facilitate idea sharing and peer review.

With each visit, Washburn could see the impact the speakers were having on her students. “I heard some students leaving class saying that hearing from the speaker solidified that they want to study writing in college and pursue it more seriously,” she said. “I have heard students discussing the tips from the writers and in turn incorporating different techniques into their writing. That’s when I know it’s working.”

[View All
District News](#)

FEATURED PHOTOS



#WEloveLakota

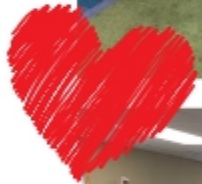
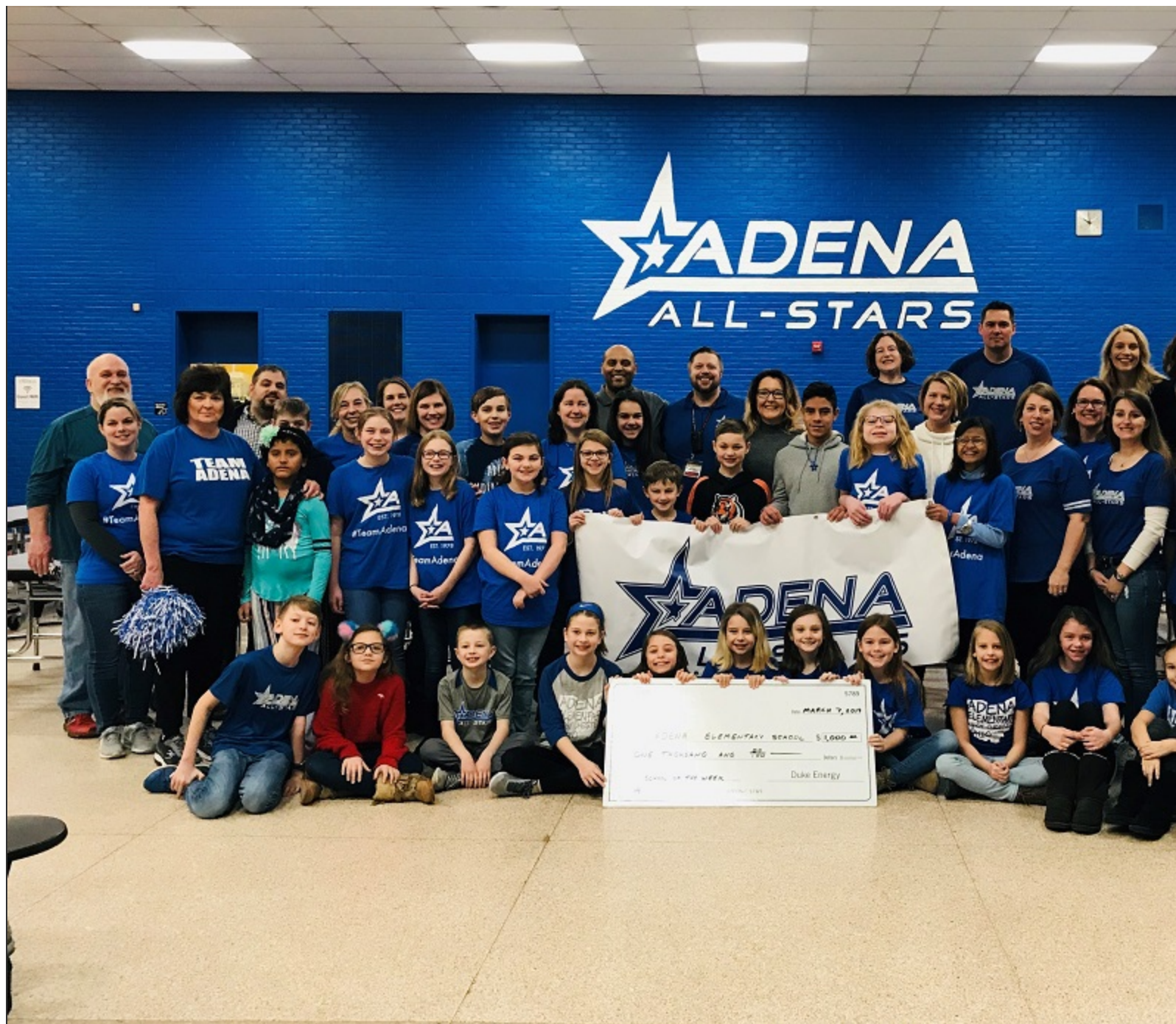


Photo Contest
Winners



The three winners of last month's #WEloveLakota social media contest received surprised valentine deliveries this week. The "most loved" photo submissions highlighted Lakota's Child Nutrition Department (pictured bottom left), Hopewell Early Childhood School teacher Asha Ruiz (pictured top) and Union Elementary school resource officer Nick Dunlevy (pictured bottom right). Search #WEloveLakota on any social media platform to see all the submissions.





Adena Elementary made the news as Channel 12's School of the Week! Adena was selected as the Duke Energy School of the week for creating a positive environment for its students. [Click here to Channel 12's coverage](#) when the school was presented the \$1000 award.

NEW BUSINESS

Kindergarten Registration Now Open

Open registration for Lakota's all-day kindergarten program will begin on March 1 and run through April 5. All students are eligible for the all-day kindergarten option, with the option to enroll in the half-day program, if desired.

Lakota's kindergarten classes will be held at six K-2 early childhood schools, including Creekside, Heritage, Hopewell, Liberty, Shawnee and Wyandot. Please note that students must be five years old on or before Aug. 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year. Families can register for kindergarten online before visiting the Welcome Center at 5572 Princeton Road to provide required documentation.

[Visit the kindergarten registration site for more details.](#)

Upcoming Student Fanfares

Lakota's popular community fanfare events supporting student achievement are becoming a favorite tradition throughout the district.

The concept is a simple one: Line the school's entrance and give students high-fives and words of encouragement as they are filing into school, providing students with a visual display of all their supporters during times like testing and the start of a new semester.

Upcoming fanfares include:

Friday, March 15
Ridge Junior Student Fanfare
7 a.m.

Monday, March 25
Lakota West Main Campus Student Fanfare
7:30 a.m.

Monday, March 25
Heritage ECS Student Fanfare
8:50 a.m.

Help Honor Lakota's Educators of Excellence, Nominations Due April 5

Following with tradition, the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty, in partnership with Lakota Local Schools, is currently accepting nominations for the 2019 Lakota Educator of Excellence Awards.

The award is made possible through a generous sponsorship from Phelan Insurance Agency. Two monetary awards will be presented: one to a recipient from the elementary level (PreK-6) and another from the secondary level (7-12). The winners will receive a \$1,000 grant to be used for a special project at their school. The third, non-monetary award, will be presented to a Lakota administrator who has shown extraordinary commitment to the students and teachers of Lakota Local Schools as well as the community.

The Lakota Educator of Excellence Award was established in 2007 to recognize educators in the Lakota School District who demonstrate consistency and high commitment to students. These individuals motivate, share ideas, inspire, support, create, and go above and beyond to make a difference in the community.

Outstanding educators can be nominated to receive this honor by students, colleagues, parents or any community member who wishes to acknowledge an educator's exceptional effort. Nominations are not limited to classroom teachers. Award recipients may be any person (teacher, administrator, counselor, support staff, etc.) working with young people in the Lakota School District. Winners are chosen by a committee of representatives from Lakota Local Schools and the Community Foundation.

Nominations are due Friday, April 5. [Click here to download and complete the 2019 Educator of Excellence nomination form.](#) Questions may be directed to Karen Gibbs at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty – karen.gibbs@wclfoundation.org or 513.682.8061.

This Month on Social Media: Why are you #Lucky2BNLakota?

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day this month, we're asking you to tell us what opportunity or program makes you feel lucky to be in Lakota schools – with a video or photo!

Whatever it is, get creative and share a video or photo that illustrates that one thing in your school community that makes you feel fortunate to be in Lakota schools.

Participate all month long on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram by tagging Lakota's account and #Lucky2BNLakota. At the end of the month, the photo with the most "likes" will be declared the winner and featured in Superintendent Matthew Miller's April video update.

How to Participate:

1. Get creative and think about one opportunity, experience or program in your school community that makes you feel fortunate to be in Lakota.
2. Post a photo before the end of the month on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. To participate, you must tag Lakota's official account and include #Lucky2BNLakota.
3. Share your photo with your friends to rack up the "likes," or votes all month long.

You can participate without submitting a photo or video, too! Search on your social media site of choice for #Lucky2BNLakota to "like" and share your favorite submissions.

February Video Update

Please [click here to enjoy the next edition of our monthly video update](#), A Look Around Lakota. Superintendent Matthew Miller shares just a few of the highlights from around the district, including:

- Expanded opportunities for our high school students;
 - Creekside Early Childhood School students traveled the world;
 - Students at Endeavor Elementary combined project based learning and philanthropy; and
 - See how our junior school students are being innovative in their new learning spaces.
-

'What's Next?' is the Topic for March 30 CommUnity University

Lakota's monthly Family & Parent CommUnity University, in partnership with Miami University Voice of America, continues on March 30 from 8 a.m. until noon with the topic "What's Next?."

This session will provide students and parents with information on how to achieve the 4E's: enrollment, employment, enlistment, and entrepreneurship. Breakout sessions will include guest speakers that have achieved one of these 4E's.

Lakota parents, staff and residents are encouraged this session at Miami VOA Learning Center, located at 7847 VOA Park Drive.

Hosted by Lakota's Outreach Diversity and Inclusion Department, each monthly session is led by expert Lakota staff and community partners and is designed to provide training and resources to parents, relatives, staff, community members and others who play a role in helping educate our youth. Each session is live streamed and includes breakfast, compliments of Overhead Doors, and free childcare provided by student volunteers. The sessions are free and open to the public.

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, March 11
Lakota Board of Education Meeting
at Plains Junior Media Center
6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 13
State of the Schools
at Lakota East Main Campus

ON THE RADAR

Announcements & Opportunities

Summer School Registration Deadline April 5

Lakota's Secondary Summer School program provides an opportunity for students in grades 7-12 to earn original and recovery credit. Students may also participate in summer sessions to help prepare them to retake the End-of-Course assessments or to participate in select math courses to qualify for advanced math placement the following school year.

Summer classes will be held at Lakota East Freshman Campus from May 28 through July 3. Registration for Lakota students is completed on [EZPay](#) and

6:15 p.m. (student showcase)
7 p.m. (program begins)

- Friday, March 15
Ridge Junior Student Fanfare
at Ridge Junior School
7 a.m.
- Monday, March 18 - Friday, March 22
Spring Break: No School
- Monday, March 25
Lakota West Student Fanfare
at Lakota West Main Campus
7:30 a.m.
- Monday, March 25
Heritage ECS Student Fanfare
at Heritage ECS
8:50 a.m.
- Friday, March 29
Cherokee Student Fanfare
at Cherokee Elementary
7:50 a.m.
- Saturday, March 30
CommUnity University
at Miami VOA Learning Center
8 a.m.

**See Full
Calendar**

the registration deadline is April 5. [Click here for more information on Secondary Summer School.](#)

Parent Transition Series on Social Security

The Parent Transition Series, hosted by Lakota Special Services, will feature several expert speakers this month and next.

The January meeting, postponed to March 12 due to inclement weather, will feature Kelly Draggoo from Social Security. She will provide parents with information about disability benefits and how to begin the application process. Social Security Disability benefits may be available for children from birth through adulthood.

The session begins at 6:30 p.m. in Lakota West's community room.

Last Call for Write Challenge Entries

Entries for "The Write Challenge" writing contest are due on March 10. The contest is open to *all* Lakota students in grades K-12, and it is sponsored by the Lakota LEADS (Lakota Enrichment and Academic Development of Students) parent booster group.

This year's theme is *REFLECTION*. Students can submit an essay, narrative, poem or all three. Entries are due on March 10 and must be submitted electronically. Students and families can learn more about the Challenge and obtain entry forms on the [LEADS website](#). [View the Write Challenge flyer](#) to learn more or contact president@lakotaleads.org.

Barb Bossu Nominations Due March 22

Nominations are being accepted now through March 22 for the 2019 district Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit award.

[Click here for this year's district nomination form.](#) Use this nomination form to recognize a volunteer who is making a positive impact in our district where students are impacted, and who gives their time unselfishly to the

Lakota district. Nominations for school volunteer awards will be announced by each school so check school newsletters for those deadlines and submission details. The district and school volunteer award winners will be honored at a district-wide ceremony in April.

Please email completed nominations to Lisa.Phair@cbws.com or jennifer.best27@gmail.com by March 22, 2019.

March 30: Lakota West Jazz 'n Cakes

Enjoy all-you-can eat Pancake Breakfast while listening to jazz music performed by the Lakota West High School, Freshman and Junior High School jazz bands!

The event also includes basket raffles, silent auctions and lots of vendors; tickets are \$7 at the door and children under 3 are free. Here's the musical lineup for the morning:

8:00 - 8:40 a.m.
West Freshman Jazz Band

8:40 - 9:10 a.m.
Ridge Jr. 7th Grade Jazz Band

9:10 - 10:00 a.m.
Lakota West Jazz Combo

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Plains Jr. 7th Grade Jazz Band

10:30 - 11:25 a.m.
West Jazz Ensemble

Mark Your Calendars: 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. Honorary students and their families will receive an invitation closer to the event date.

Get Your Tickets for Spring Productions

Once on This Island JR.

Plains Junior School

March 8

7:30 p.m.

March 9

3 and 7:30 p.m.

March 10

3 p.m.

With its poignant story and catchy Caribbean-flavored score, *Once on This Island JR.* is a highly original theatrical adaptation of the popular fairy tale, *The Little Mermaid*. Through almost non-stop song and dance, this full-hearted musical tells the story of Ti Moune, a peasant girl who rescues and falls in love with Daniel, a wealthy boy from the other side of her island. Preferred tickets are \$10 and general admission tickets are \$6. Tickets are on sale now at ticketpeak.com/res/plainsisland.

The Addams Family

Lakota East High School

March 29-30; April 4-6

7:30 p.m.

March 31

2:30 p.m.

America's darkest family comes to life in this original musical about love and family. The Addams Family features every father's nightmare. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family—a man her parents have never met. Tickets are available at SeatYourself.biz/LakotaEastHigh.

Guys and Dolls JR.
Hopewell Junior School

April 12-13

Hopewell Junior will be presenting Guys and Dolls JR., an adaptation of the show considered by many to be the perfect musical comedy. Its namesake ran for 1,200 performances when it opened on Broadway in 1950 and won numerous Tony Awards. *Guys and Dolls JR.* is a musical comedy classic about rolling the dice and falling in love under the lights of Broadway. Ticket information will be posted at HopewellJr.LakotaOnline.com.



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