

## A Look Around Lakota: E-News Edition

February 22, 2019



**WE are Lakota**

**Free Raffle!**  
**\$5000**  
**in Prizes**

# SUMMER FUN FAIR



**100**  
**Exhibitors**

**7th Annual Open House from 6 - 8 p.m.**  
**March 4: Lakota East • March 6: Lakota West**

**Summer Fun Fair Promises Over 100 Vendors**  
*Free Raffle with over \$5,000 in Prizes*

Lakota East and West's hallways will soon be lined with over 100 organizations offering summer youth activities.

It's all part of Lakota's seventh annual Summer Fun Fair events taking place on Monday, March 4 at Lakota East High School and Wednesday, March 6 at Lakota West High School, both from 6-8 p.m.

[Click here to see the list](#) of more than 100 exhibitors ranging from summer camps, learning centers and childcare facilities to athletic leagues, art programs, recreation activities and volunteer opportunities.

Vendors have also generously donated these raffle items that will be given away at each of the two open house events. The raffle is free, with over \$5,000 in prizes including free birthday parties, gift baskets, camp registrations, gift certificates and memberships.

### **Summer Fun Fair Raffle Prizes**

#### **American Heritage Girls Troop OH0702**

Chick-fil-A Gift Card (\$25 value)

#### **AuPairCare by Intrax**

Free Application to the Program, Summer Survival Bag, \$300 off Program Fees (\$375 value)

#### **Bethany United Methodist Church**

Hard-cover Children's Bible (\$25 value)

#### **Book Bums / Foundations for Literacy**

Foundations for Literacy Workshop (\$150 value)

#### **Buckner Martial Arts**

One Month of Lessons and Uniform (\$150 value)

#### **Butler County ESC Early Childhood Program**

Baby and Preschool Books (\$25 value)

#### **CCM Preparatory Summer Programs**

Two tickets to Godspell JR: May 9-11 (\$30 value)

#### **Cheers to Art**

Gift Certificate (\$25 value)

**Cincinnati Skating School**

One Session of 'Learn to Skate USA' Classes (\$140 value)

**Delicious Design Cookies**

Gift Certificate for Seasonal Assortment of Cookies (\$25 value)

**East Butler YMCA**

Free 30-day Membership, Free Session of Swimming, Water Bottle, Towel and T-shirt (\$200 value)

**Fitton Center**

Fitton Center One Year Family Membership (\$60 value)

**Flag Football Fanatics**

Free Registration

**Game of Fairfield**

Certificate for Pizza, Pop and Pins (\$85 value)

**Kitty Brew Cat Café**

Four Cat Lounge Passes (\$40 value)

**Laffalot Summer Camp**

Certificate toward Camp Registration (\$50 value)

**Lakota East Girls Soccer Camp**

Soccer Camp Registration (\$65 value)

**Lakota Hills Swim Club**

\$50 off Full Membership

**Lakota Sports Organization**

Program Registration for 2019 Season (\$75- \$125 value)

**Mathnasium Learning Center**

Half-month Enrollment (including registration), t-shirt and squish balls (\$330 value)

**Perfection Gymnastics**

50% off of One Week of Summer Camp (\$175 value)

**Pinot's Palette/Lulu's Sweetbites Painting & Cookie Camp**

Gift Certificate for Free Class (\$35 value)

**ROYAL Theatre Company (Mason)**

Four General Admission Tickets to Footloose on June 7-9 (\$48 value)

**The First Tee of Greater Miami Valley**

Shirt, Hat & Umbrella (\$50 value)

**The Goddard School**

Coding Farmers Game (\$35 value)

**The Sunshine House - West Chester**

Movie Night In: Popcorn, Candy and a Movie (\$25 value)

**TopGolf**

Game Play Voucher (\$50 value)

**WAVE Foundation: Newport Aquarium**

Painting created by a Penguin (\$25 value)

**West Chester Academy**

One Birthday Party of Choice: Music Pups, Dance or Gymnastics (\$169 value)

**Whitewater Bible Camp**

2019 Camp Scholarship and a Camp T-shirt (\$100 value)

Concessions will be provided by our high school booster organizations, so you can grab a quick dinner, snack or dessert. Live performances and demonstrations by some organizations will also provide extra entertainment throughout the evening.

Mark your calendars now to be part of the fun!

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## **West Hails Two Visual Arts Finalists in Overture Competition**

For the first time since 2010, Lakota West hailed two of the four Visual Arts finalists in the esteemed Cincinnati Arts Association Overture Competition. Congratulations to West seniors and AP Drawing students **Alyson Power** and **Trey Small**, whose portfolios were judged against the work of several semi-finalists on display at the Aronoff Center for the Arts Weston Gallery earlier this month. The winner, to be announced March 9, will receive a \$4,000 scholarship.

## Ten Lakota Students Named National Merit Finalists

Lakota Schools is proud of these ten students who were just recently named as National Merit Finalists.

**Michelle Ballman** (Lakota West)

**Anwasha Dey** (Lakota West)

**Alexander Evert** (Lakota West)

**Chloe Huggins** (Lakota East)

**William Koger** (Lakota East)

**Aubert Li** (Lakota East)

**Idris Malik** (Lakota East)

**Megan Shaffer** (Lakota West)

**Linnea Sippola** (Lakota West)

**Madeline Wilson** (Lakota West)

Only one percent of the 1.6 million students who took the PSAT as juniors are named finalists. In March, the National Merit Scholarship Program will begin awarding scholarships to selected finalists based on test scores, overall academic record and recommendations.

## **West Girls Basketball Wins 5th Straight GMC Title**

For the fifth straight season - a first in the conference - the Lakota West girls basketball team has won the GMC title. Finishing the regular season with a 20-2 record, the team is currently battling for the district title. A win on Monday will move the team to the district championship game on March 2. This has been a stellar season for the team, with Coach Andy Fishman picking up his 400th career win with Lakota.

## **East Boys Basketball Earns GMC Title**

The Lakota East boys basketball team has earned its second outright GMC title, and fourth overall. As the preseason coaches' favorite to win the title this year, they proved the coaches right by beating Hamilton, the only team to defeat East during league play this season. East has secured the number two seed in the upcoming sectionals, which begins on Feb. 26.

## **West and East Swimmers and Divers Head to State**

Swimmers from both Lakota West and East high schools, along with diver Lindsay Jones, headed to Canton on Thursday to compete in the state competition. Both schools will compete in individual events and relays. Representing Lakota are:

### **Lakota East**

**Hannah Cech** (200 IM, 500 Free)

**Lizzie Jantusch** (200 IM)

**Lindsey Jones** (Diving)

**Tara Witkowski** (500 Free)

**Adam McDonald** (200 IM, 100 Breast)

**Jacob McDonald** (500 Free, 100 Back)

**Boys 200 Medley Relay**

**Boys 400 Free Relay**

### **Lakota West**



**Bridget Cramer** (100 Fly)  
**Grace Glosson** (100 Fly, 100 Back)  
**Grace Luebbe** (200 Free, 500 Free)  
**Paige Striley** (50 Free, 100 Free)  
**Carol Rice** (200 IM)  
**Girls 200 Medley Relay**  
**Girls 400 Free Relay**

## **Endeavor's Chalk Named Warm 98.5's Teacher of the Week**

Class was interrupted when Warm 98.5 disc jockeys Jim Day and Amanda Orlando barged into **Lori Chalk's** fifth grade room at Endeavor Elementary School. Chalk was named Teacher of the Week after being nominated by the mother of one of her students, **Mihir Garg**. Day and Orlando brought gifts for Chalk and read the email they received praising her skills as a teacher. The class recorded a greeting announcing the award, which then aired on the radio and WLWT.

## **West's Kaur Travels to New York and Washington, D.C. for Leadership Role**

**Amitoj Kaur**, a senior at Lakota West, traveled to New York City and Washington, D.C. for the national Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) week. The nonprofit career technical student led organization focuses on family and leadership. During the week-long event, Kaur was able to meet with the Department of Education, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, tour the White House and be part of the studio audience for Good Morning America. Kaur was elected National Vice President of Membership in July.

## **Technology Department's Wesley Tapped for Expertise**

**Todd Wesley**, Lakota's Chief Technology Officer, was recently interviewed for *EdTech Focus on K-12*, a national trade publication that explores technology and education issues. Wesley spoke about his department's focus on data interoperability and information security. He stressed that teachers should be able to focus on staff, which means data interoperability is crucial. [Click here to read the complete article.](#)

## **Miller Named to Cincinnati Top 300**

Lakota Superintendent **Matthew Miller** was named one of the top 300 most powerful business leaders in Cincinnati. This is the first time the publishers of *Cincinnati Magazine* have compiled this list. Miller was one of just 21 leaders selected in the education and health category. When asked why he chose a career in education, Miller said, "All children deserve to have access to a high-quality, student-centered education regardless of their circumstances. Every child learns differently, which is why personalized learning is so important - the way that school has been taught for the last 125 years no longer works."

## AROUND LAKOTA



## Mock Interviews Prepare CRA Students for Next Step

Sitting down for your very first interview can be a nerve-wracking experience, especially with questions like these:

- “Tell me about yourself.”
- “What are three words you would use to describe yourself and why?”
- “What is one of your greatest weaknesses?”

They are tough questions to tackle, but students at Lakota's Career Readiness Academy (CRA) are prepared to answer them.

Last week, 140 CRA students got to take part in a mock interview session with a community volunteer. The interviewers used a rubric to grade and give feedback to the students.

“These mock interviews provide real-world learning opportunities to make sure our students are ready for their next step, whether it is employment, enrollment in higher ed, enlistment in the military or venturing into entrepreneurship,” said CRA Principal **Nicole Isaacs**.

During advisory period over the last few weeks, students worked with staff members to prepare for the interviews.

“The interviews gave students the opportunity to work on their soft skills – everything from handshakes to making good eye contact,” said Isaacs. “They also learned how to articulate their responses, such as how to frame weaknesses in a positive way.”

Students emerging from the interview room were overwhelmingly positive about the whole experience.

Senior **Mikal Anthony Smith** emphasized how important it was to prepare for the interviews. He said the answers to questions came easily to him because he had mentally practiced how he would respond.

After his interview, junior **Isaiah Walker** said, “I believe this is a great opportunity to help us think about what we want to do for a career and how to be prepared for it.”

Interviewers also valued the experience. Lakota’s Purchasing Manager **Veronica Gayotin** was able to interview eight students. “I would definitely do it again. It was a very insightful experience and I was very impressed by the CRA students. You could see a boost in the confidence level of the students as they went through the interview.”

That confidence was evident when students completed the interviews. Although most of the students were admittedly nervous before their interviews, when they were finished they told others still waiting to go in, “It’s not as hard as you think it is going to be.”

“This is often the very first interviewing experience for students,” Isaacs said. “But preparing them and giving them this practice can really make a difference.”





*Union Elementary third-graders (pictured above) sang a high-spirited early African song during the school's assembly celebrating Black History Month. Every grade level sang a song, chronologically presenting the history of traditional African American music.*

## Union Celebrates Black History Month through Music

Students at Union Elementary taught a valuable history lesson through music this week.

“In the classroom, it’s easy to get caught up in the more technical side of music like rhythms and instruments,” said first year Union music teacher **Delaney Roberts**. “But students aren’t always exposed to the historical side of music.”

In honor of Black History Month, Roberts noted that nearly all popular, modern-day music can be traced back to genres that originated in African American culture. With that in mind, she developed a unit that had every grade level at Union studying a different musical era of African American history. Their work came to life in the form of an all-school musical performance that chronologically presented the history of traditional African American music. Students representing their grade level shared with their peers some of the facts they'd learned about their genre, as it related to African American history.

From blues, jazz and hip hop to genres inspired by slavery and the Civil Rights movement, selections took students, staff and visitors through African American history. Songs like “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,” for example, gave students the opportunity to “code” music, or interpret the hidden messages within their lyrics.

The program also gave two sixth-graders, **Scott Nicolai** and **Caden Powels**, the opportunity to pursue their passion for rap music. They were inspired by Principal **Kyle Lichey** to put their talent to work by first writing and then performing a song at the all-school assembly.

"I hope my classmates took away that coming together as a community is one of the most important things in life," said Nicolai, who said the duo's lyrics were inspired by the words of Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The message we were trying to get across was that you shouldn't treat any race different from another," Powels said.

Lichey closed the program with a challenge to every Union student: "The most important thing you can do is greet someone and make them feel like they belong. Think about how you can spread love and positivity throughout your whole school community," he said.

A month-long trivia program further compounded the lessons students took away from music class. Assistant Principal **Michele Plummer** has been the driving force behind a daily fact and question shared on morning announcements. Sharing non-traditional facts like, "Wonder Woman had a black twin" has helped catch students' attention. She follows up each fact with a question that challenges students to explore a topic on their own and then turn in their responses for a daily drawing.

Union incorporated similar activities when celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month back in the fall.

"It's all about coming together and building community," Lichey said. "And you do that by understanding one another's backgrounds and appreciating them."





## Student-Created Mural Captures Spirit of Community at Wyandot

You can't help but notice the beautiful mural in the cafeteria at Wyandot Early Childhood School. After all, it is 20' high by 80' long – and includes a paper doll representation of each student and staff member, nearly 700 in all.

The mural is based on the best-selling picture book "*All are Welcome*" that celebrates diversity and gives encouragement and support to all kids.

Wyandot Principal **Liz Gruber** discovered the book last summer and immediately knew that it would be perfect to build community at the school.

"With Wyandot bringing in new preschoolers, adding second grade and bringing on new staff members this year, 'All are Welcome' is the perfect mantra for us," said Gruber.

Gruber started the new school year by reading the book to students in each of the school's neighborhoods (aka hallways). She also brought the book to the school's art teacher, **Sherry Federle** and asked if she could help with a new mural that represented everyone at Wyandot.

"I was honored when asked to take on this project," said Federle. "But I can't take credit for the mural. I just took the concept to the kids and let them create."

As with most art projects, the mural was not just a lesson in art. Federle's students learned about planning, diversity, working together, problem-solving and more.

Art workshops with the students included sessions on planning what the overall mural would look like and on things you could do with paper (like curling or twisting that could be used to create the paper figure of themselves). In another lesson, classes read "The Colors Us" to learn about diversity and that everyone is really just a different shade of brown. Classes even learned about careers as they talked about designing the clothes the dolls would wear.

After four or five rotations in art, the students' paper figures were ready for hanging. Sherry and her husband spent 60 hours over Christmas break to install the mural.

And when the school building portion of the mural fell down from the cafeteria wall, Federle challenged her students to brainstorm ideas to come up with a solution. The students rose to the challenge, coming up with the idea of using magnets to help the school building stick to the metal wall.

“One of the coolest parts of the whole project was when I took the classes on an ‘I Spy’ field trip to the cafeteria,” said Federle. “It was so neat to see the excitement when they saw the finished project – and to see themselves and their classmates as part of the Wyandot community.” The field trip had students work together to try to identify items on the ‘I Spy’ clue list, and then take photos on iPads as documentation.

There are still a few finishing touches that need to be made to the mural. Yesterday, staff members created their paper dolls to hang on the wall. Federle also plans to add a description that tells the story of creating the mural, as well as key to help find each classroom of students on the wall.

Finally, to capture the true meaning of “All are Welcome,” the phrase will be translated in all of the languages represented at Wyandot and added to the mural.

“We shared the mural project with the author and illustrator of “All is Welcome” and they loved it as much as we do,” said Gruber.





*More than 50 East and West ASL students signed the National Anthem at the recent East vs. West basketball game. Lakota West junior Lauren Petersen, pictured center top, led the charge.*

## **East, West ASL Programs Make Strong Statement at Center Court**

The scene at center court before the East vs. West boys basketball game on Feb. 8 was something American Sign Language teachers **Katie Nicol** and **Jessica Frye** had only imagined. But it wasn't until West junior **Lauren Petersen** approached them with the same vision that it actually became a reality.

Accompanying three West choir students who sang the National Anthem was 50-plus East and West ASL students - of all different levels - signing the song lyrics. Besides being a direct representation of the cross-district unity wrapped up in "WE are Lakota", it also made quite a statement to everyone present in the stands that night.

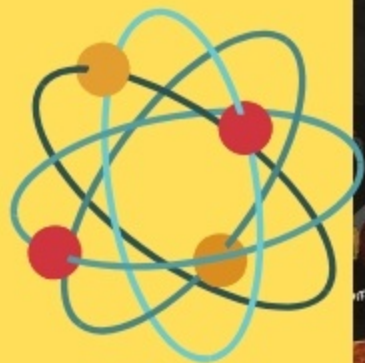
"There was a huge applause at the end," recalled Petersen. "I had no idea that it wasn't something many people have probably witnessed."

Frye mentioned that the idea was inspired by the tradition of the ASL III students signing the National Anthem each year at West's Volley for the Cure event. The ASL teachers at both high school campuses all jumped at the opportunity to make such an experience available to their students at all levels of the ASL program.

Petersen took the lead on organizing the many practices that happened both during extra help bell and after school leading up to the center court performance. "There's not a sign for every single word, so some of it is left up to interpretation," said Petersen, who also took it upon herself to create videos and study guides to help her peers learn consistent signs.

"She worked really hard to make this happen and I am so proud of the passion with which she brought other students along," Frye said.





*East junior Hailey Holtman's design for sulfur will be part of an international fixture celebrating the 150th anniversary of the periodic table. East also used student art to create their own display of the periodic table.*

## Chemistry Project Finds East a Place on International Art Piece

An historical international fixture hanging in the Science Teaching Complex at the University of Waterloo Canada will forever be stamped with the artwork of a Lakota East student.

East was one of just 118 schools, from 26 different countries, invited to collaborate on an art piece to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Dmitri Mendeleev's creation of the periodic table of elements. Each school was tasked with developing a design that embodied their assigned element. The designs from all over the world will be transferred to ceramic tiles and arranged as a timeline, based on their discovery dates.

"It's one of the first pieces of art I've created that is going to be shown to so many people," said East junior **Hailey Holtman**, whose design for the sulfur was selected to represent East. The challenge tapped into her shared passion for both chemistry and art. "It was a really non-traditional art project."

East Chemistry teacher **Liz Gosky** first heard about the opportunity at the biennial Conference on Chemical Education that she attended last summer at Notre Dame. She submitted the application, thinking it would be a great project to spark conversation about science.

"I think it is amazing to celebrate something that is 150 years old and still is probably our most used resource in chemistry classes," Gosky said. "I think the kids gained an appreciation for what an amazing discovery the periodic table really is."

The international art project actually sparked an idea between Gosky and physics teacher **John Severns** that would involve an even deeper study of the entire periodic table and establish a fixture for Lakota East's own walls.

Students worked in pairs to research and then depict the spirit of their assigned element. Similar to the University of Waterloo project, the designs were combined to form an oversized depiction of the periodic table just outside of both teachers' classrooms.

"The periodic table is something that everyone is familiar with, as it hangs in every science classroom," Gosky said. "I think this helped bring it to life and gave it some more meaning. Kids could see that the elements really are parts of everyday objects and 'stuff' that they work with and use everyday. I think it definitely helped spark some conversations about practical uses of elements and chemistry in our world."

[View All  
District News](#)

## FEATURED PHOTOS





**Lakota**  
Trust  
Education  
Together Rights  
Professional  
Association  
Union Honor

*Lakota  
Education  
Association*

*United for Students*

*Every year, the LEA Scholarship Committee selects four students to receive \$1,000 to use toward their higher education goals. The LEA Senior Scholarship winners have their sights set on earning a degree in education, and the LEA Member Scholarship winners have parents serving as educators for Lakota.*

*The 2018-19 LEA Senior Scholarship winners are future educators Abby DeRossett, a dedicated peer counselor and Alto section leader for the Lakota West Choir, who looks forward to earning her education degree from Miami University and “changing lives through the art of teaching”; and Joey Gelter, a self-described “energetic supporter of West athletics,” year-round and multi-team baseball player, future coach and secondary school teacher.*

*The LEA Member Scholarship winners are Elizabeth Pinder, who plans to major in computer science and find creative answers to all sorts of problems in order to improve the world; and Kayleigh Jones, an honor society member, tutor, volunteer, and future nurse practitioner who is looking forward to heading south this fall to earn her science degree from the University of Alabama. From left to right: LEA Vice President Kevin Carlin, LEA Member Scholarship winners Kayleigh Jones and Elizabeth Pinder, Senior Scholarship winners Abby DeRossett and Joey Gelter, LEA Executive Team members Phil Preston and Tracy O'Rourke.*





*A recent staff meeting at Lakota Ridge Junior School allowed teachers to try out some of the innovative tools students get to use everyday in the school's Innovation Hub.*



THROW

KINDNES

LIKE

Always be nice  
to people and  
be kind.  
from  
Taylor

Thank you  
Miss Cidd  
for teaching  
me new things

CONFETTI

*"Random Acts of Kindness Day" was a month-long celebration at many Lakota schools, including Adena Elementary where every door was decorated with a message around kindness. Adena third-graders (pictured above) spread kindness through a valentine exchange during their Valentine's Day celebration.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### Lakota Learning Blog" "The Flipped Classroom: Right Side Up or Upside Down?"

Lakota educators are the voice behind the "Inside Lakota Learning" blog.

In the latest post, **Caitlin Huxel**, a sixth grade math teacher at Endeavor Elementary, reflects on her personal journey to "flip" her classroom. She challenges the traditional "right side up" image of teaching and learning in which the teacher teaches the content to the students *during the school day* and then students practice the content *independently at home*.

On the flip side, she has been experimenting with a model through which students receive the content at home (via technology) and then practice what they've learned the next day in class with their teacher. Her commitment to the new approach has paid dividends in the form of more personalized learning experience for her students.

[Click here to read this two latest post and to subscribe to alerts for future posts.](#)

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### 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

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### **Parent Transition Series Continues Feb. 27 and March 12**

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

On Feb. 27, Mike Sweetin from Butler County Developmental Disabilities will provide parents with information about services for children birth through adulthood. Sarah Stanutz from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities will also provide information on services for applicants age 14 through adulthood, including summer work programs.

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.

Both sessions begin at 6:30 p.m. in Lakota West's community room.

## **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, February 25  
**Board of Education Work Session**  
at Plains Media Center  
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, February 25  
**Kindergarten Registration Information Night**  
at Lakota East High School  
6:30 p.m.
- Friday, March 1  
**Lakota Pi Day**  
at Lakota East High School  
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 1 - Saturday, March 2  
**Lakota West Presents "Freaky Friday"**  
at Lakota West Main Theater  
7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, March 3  
**Lakota West Presents "Freaky Friday"**  
at Lakota West Main Theater  
3 p.m.

## ON THE RADAR

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

### **Spring Plays Begin Feb. 28**

It's time to mark your calendars to see Lakota's talented students in their upcoming theater productions. Tickets are now on sale for the first two plays this spring.

#### **Freaky Friday**

*Lakota West High School*

Feb. 28 – March 2: 7:30 p.m.

March 3: 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$17 at the door. [Click here to purchase tickets.](#)

#### **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.

Preferred tickets are \$10 and general admission tickets are \$6 at [ticketpeak.com/res/plainsisland](http://ticketpeak.com/res/plainsisland).

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- Monday, March 4  
**Summer School Registration Opens**
- Monday, March 4  
**Summer Fun Fair Open House**  
at Lakota East High School  
6 - 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 5  
**Fellas & Fiction**  
at X-Quisite Cutz  
6 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 6  
**Coffee Chat with the Superintendent**  
at Coffee Beans & Brew  
8 a.m. Monday, March 4
- Wednesday, March 6  
**Summer Fun Fair Open House**  
at Lakota West High School  
6 - 8 p.m.
- Thursday, March 7  
**Kindergarten Registration Information Night**  
at Lakota West High School  
6:30 p.m.

**See Full  
Calendar**

## **Marketing Internship Deadline Extended**

There's still time for high school juniors and seniors to apply for a spring break internship in marketing/marketing research at Various Views – the application deadline has been extended until Feb. 27. [Click here for details on the Various View Spring Internship.](#)

## **Nominations Sought for Barb Bossu Volunteer Award**

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](mailto:Lisa.Phair@cbws.com) or [jennifer.best27@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.best27@gmail.com) by March 22, 2019.

## **First Kindergarten Registration Information Night Feb. 25**

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.

Two parent information nights for Kindergarten have been scheduled as follows:

**February 25**  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Lakota East HS

**March 7**  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Lakota West HS

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](#)

and plan to register beginning March 1. All questions can be directed to the Welcome Center at (513) 682-4120.

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### **Lakota Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Set for March 28**

The 21<sup>st</sup> annual dinner and induction ceremony to honor the newest members of the Lakota Athletic Hall of Fame will be held on Thursday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wetherington Golf & Country Club.

This popular community event will welcome the following 2019 Inductees:

**Matt Bahner** – Lakota West Class of 2008: Soccer

**Jimmy Brenneman** – Lakota West Class of 2008: Baseball

**Colton Cattani** – Lakota East Class of 2008: Baseball & Football

**Caitlin (Dombart) Barger** – Lakota West Class of 2008: Soccer, Basketball & Track

**Stu Eversole** – Lakota Athletic Director, Coach & Teacher

**Ryan Fields** – Lakota West Class of 2008: Wrestling

**Amber Gray** – Lakota West Class of 2008: Basketball & Volleyball

**Rachel (Nelson) Amburn** – Lakota West Class of 2008: Golf

The cost to attend is \$25 per person (which includes dinner); the deadline for registration is noon on March 20. For more information on the event,

view the [Lakota Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony Flyer](#).

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## **Lakota Pi Day Features 45+ Exhibitors March 1**

On March 1, join Lakota LEADS and the Lakota community to celebrate Pi Day the best way we know how....with awesome hands-on STEM activities! Come see what UC Neuroscience, Cool Critters, Scientific Mayhem, The Greater Cincinnati Association for Women in Science and many more exhibitors have in store for you. We have over 45 exhibitors waiting to share their love of math and science with you!

This year we will have a “Future Cities” exhibit created by a group of teachers and students from Adena, Union, Endeavor, and Freedom. You will have an opportunity to vote for your favorite Future City while at Pi Day. Don’t forget to stop in the cafeteria and check out this exhibit, and be sure to vote.

Pi Day is Friday, March 1 from 6:30 – 9 p.m. at Lakota East High School. Don’t worry about missing dinner either; food will be available for purchase from Papa John’s and Chick-fil-A, as well as other snacks and pies (you can’t have Pi Day without pies).

Still not sure if Pi Day is for you? [Then check out this video to see what all the excitement is about.](#)

Visit the Lakota LEADS website for more information.

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## **Write Challenge Entries Due March 10**

Lakota LEADS (Lakota Enrichment and Academic Development of Students) parent booster group is excited to announce “The Write Challenge” writing contest for *all* Lakota students in grades K-12.

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](mailto:president@lakotaleads.org).

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### **Superintendent to Deliver 'State of the Schools'**

Superintendent Matthew Miller will deliver the district's second annual "State of the Schools" address on March 13. The event is open to the entire community.

Miller will cover many topics, including current examples and future plans to support the district's recently approved strategic plan. Evidence of Lakota's progress toward a personalized, future ready K-12 educational experience will be presented by Miller alongside student and staff speakers.

The event takes place at Lakota East High School on Wednesday, March 13. The 7 p.m. program will be preceded by a showcase of all 23 schools.

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### **Mark Your Calendar for Lakota's Military Commitment Ceremony**

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.

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### **Next Coffee Chat with the Superintendent on March 6**

Lakota's next Coffee Chat is set for Wednesday, March 6 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.

Coffee Chats are held on the first Wednesday every month (with some exceptions), rotating between West Chester and Liberty Township locations. The times vary to accommodate different schedules. [Click here to view the Coffee Chats scheduled for this school year.](#)

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### **March 5: Next Fellas & Fiction Night**

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, March 5 at 6 p.m. at X-Quisite Cutz (located at 7324 Kingsgate Way, Unit F in West Chester).

On the first Tuesday of every month, 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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