

September 7, 2018





A New Learning Space for Junior Schools

Students at all four of Lakota's junior schools are discovering that their media centers have been reinvented. Innovation Hubs, previously known as media centers, provide a flexible space for teachers and students to collaborate, innovate and learn.

The spaces have been designed to foster creativity among students. "Innovation Hubs are a reimagining of media centers to continue to meet changing (educational) needs and provide a first class learning experience for all of our students," said **Krista Heidenreich**, director of digital learning for the district. "The Innovation Hubs encourage face-to-face interactions along with the integration of digital tools into learning."

Cesia Guerrero and **Samira Guseinova**, eighth-graders at Liberty Junior, are enjoying the new space. "The new furniture is really comfortable and it inspires you when you're working," said Cesia. "There's a lot of new technology and this is a new way to learn." The girls are using the green screen technology to complete a science project.

"We're filming a news report talking about different eras in history," said Samira. "We had different options for the project, but we liked the idea of a news report. You can choose different backgrounds for the green screens."

Books and access to online resources for reading and classwork are still available in the new spaces. Recent additions allow teachers to use the Innovation Hubs for both whole class and small group learning, and take advantage of exciting technologies that students can use to further their learning. Examples of these include: virtual reality stations, video filming and editing, including green screen technology and 3D printing.

With the 1:1 technology rollout happening this month, the Innovation Hubs will also serve as a support area for teachers and students. Following a successful targeted pilot last year, all junior school students will receive a district-owned Chromebook in September. As part of the #WEareEmpowerED initiative, junior school students will have expanded access to innovative instructional content, activities to increase collaboration and communication, guidance on digital organization, and new opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom and school day. Chief Technology Officer **Todd Wesley**, notes, "This new initiative supports the development of key student skills and responsibilities necessary to navigate the digital transformation of today and the highly-skilled technology driven global world of tomorrow."

Along with staff providing instructional support, students with an interest will be encouraged to become experts in technology resources and tools in order to help their fellow students. Innovation specialists have been assigned to each of the junior schools to support teachers through professional development and modeling practices as the integration of digital tools and resources continues.

Caption: Pictured above, junior school students enjoy using the new learning tools in their Innovation Hubs.



Adena Resource Pantry Expanding to All Lakota Schools

"Only when students' most basic needs are met can we expect for them to learn and thrive at school," said **Angie Brown**, Lakota's parent and family engagement coordinator.

It's a simple concept that set a big idea into motion at Adena Elementary last school year. With the support of its community liaison and PTO, the school established a resource pantry that has since been stockpiled with hundreds of snacks, school supplies and personal hygiene items for students who need them throughout the day.

Now, with the support of the District Parent Council (DPC) ambassadors and their PTO/PTA partners, Lakota is preparing to expand the idea to every Lakota school.

"There is some level of need in every single building," Brown said. "True equality means equity and so, we're going to ask the community to come together and make this a reality at all 23 Lakota schools."

IKEA West Chester is one community partner helping Lakota achieve that equity across buildings. The retailer is providing a shelving unit and other organizational tools like boxes, baskets and shelf liners to help each building start their pantry.

"We're very proud to once again partner with Lakota Schools," said IKEA Store Manager Alison Zeng. "Providing these products is the right thing to do and how we're helping create a better everyday experience for Lakota's students."

DPC President **Lisa Phair** was energized by the ambassadors' ideas and enthusiasm for the new project at the group's first meeting of the year.

"Parents are excited about the opportunity to help in a different and truly meaningful way," Phair said. "We're acknowledging the fact that there is an unfulfilled need in our schools and we're doing something about it."

Each pantry will require individually wrapped non-perishable snacks like granola bars, chips, crackers and applesauce. Other requested items include personal and feminine hygiene items, school supplies and clothing. Please contact your school's DPC ambassador or PTO/PTA president to inquire about donations.

Caption: Pictured left, Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller and Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction Keith Koehne worked together to construct the first IKEA shelf for Lakota's resource pantries. Pictured right, Adena Elementary School's has been stocking its resource pantry since it was established last school year.

SHOUT-OUTS

SHOUT OUTS



Aubert Li



4710 Timber Trail Drive



Lindsay Agency
8055 Cin-Day Road



7443 Dimmick Road



4782 Plum Square



7667 Cox Lane



6703 Yankee Road



Tyler Wethington

Thank you to our community partners for supporting WE are  nnectED

Woodland Student Punches Ticket to National Invention Convention

Woodland sixth-grader **Tyler Wethington** earned a spot to compete at the National Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship Expo (NICEE) in Michigan this spring. Tyler's "Walking Stick" invention earned him a fourth place finish among hundreds of other Ohio fifth-graders competing at the state level this summer.

"He had some hiccups along the way on both competition days, but he persevered and redesigned as needed," said Carrie Murray, Tyler's science teacher at Hopewell Elementary last year. "I am so proud of him!"

WEareConnected Business Partners Support Lakota Students

Business partners throughout our community are supporting Lakota students by posting a WE are Connected sign in their windows. This sign indicates to Lakota students that they are welcome as customers and that the business offers free WiFi connectivity.

"We are grateful for the support our community partners show our students," said Superintendent Matthew Miller. "We appreciate their willingness to offer WiFi to our kids as they are out and about in the community."

Each edition of A Look Around Lakota will feature different business partners involved with the initiative.

East's Aubert Li Earns Perfect ACT Score

Just one-tenth of 1 percent of students who take the the ACT test earn the top composite score of 36, and you can add Lakota East's **Aubert Li** to that group!

"Aubert is a shining example of the East way," said East Principal Suzanna Davis. "He is a quiet leader in our school who demonstrates time and time again what is possible through lots of hard work and academic focus. I'm very proud of him and excited to see where the rest of senior year takes him."

The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science. Each test is scored on a scale of 1-36, and a student's composite score is the average of the four test scores. All major U.S. colleges accept ACT test scores and scores provide colleges with evidence of student readiness for the academic rigors of college coursework.

AROUND LAKOTA



THE DEVICE

EMPOWERING LAKOTA LEARNERS



Click above to view the new video that explains how the 1:1 Chromebook program will work.

New Parent Video Explains 1:1: 'WE are Empowered' Initiative

A new 8-minute video is now available for parents seeking more information about Lakota's "**WE are EMPOWERED**" digital learning movement.

Lakota's next chapter of personalized student learning begins this school year with a new pilot program that is pairing each of our seventh and eighth grade students with a district-owned Chromebook (1:1) to support high quality teacher instruction.

The program is designed to empower each junior school student to own their learning through expanded access to innovative instructional content, activities to increase collaboration and communication, guidance on digital organization, along with new learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom and school day. This new initiative supports the development of key student skills and responsibilities necessary to navigate the digital transformation of today and the highly-skilled, technology driven global world of tomorrow.

Once the **WE are EMPOWERED** initiative is established at our junior schools, it will move to our high schools.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more about the roll-out or [visit the "WE are EmPOWERed" page](#) on Lakota's website.

#theEASTway



Student Voice Transforms East Locker Bay

It all began during a Lakota East Student Advisory Council meeting last school year. The 20-plus members of the group and East administration started discussing the idea of flexible classrooms as learning spaces and how to incorporate them at Lakota East.

Some students then visited schools that had recently redesigned a learning space. At the next Council meeting they shared out their findings and Principal **Suzanna Davis** tasked the group with picking a space in the building and redesigning it. The group landed on transforming one of the locker bay areas on the first floor.

“We had no idea that the administration had planned to get started on implementing our designs so quickly,” said senior **Grace Phair**. “Until we received a text with pictures of the torn down lockers and a text from Mrs. Davis saying, ‘Your voices matter... look what we started on this week!’ I couldn’t help but smile when I saw her text. Not only was it amazing to see our design come to life, but to know our administrators and teachers care about our student voice meant a lot.”

The students got to pick the furniture, paint colors, messaging on the walls – everything to make it a more inclusive, engaging and flexible space.

“Seeing the administration follow through on such a big project that was mainly based on what we said and what we wanted was crazy to watch,” said Student Advisory Council member **Caleb Hoch**. “I think I learned a lot more about the new way the district is moving. The follow-through shows that the district isn’t just all talk about doing new and innovative things.”

Principal Davis says that the new learning space at East is a perfect example of embracing student voice. “From the design to meeting with furniture vendors, the entire process was driven by student voice. We have been thrilled watching the space 'come to life' at the start of this school year providing a wonderful space for students to collaborate at all times of the day.”



Click above to see how the school year got started around Lakota.

A Look Around Lakota Video Update: Back-to-School Edition

Please enjoy the back-to-school edition of "A Look Around Lakota." In this first edition of the new school year, Superintendent Matthew Miller shares just some of the highlights and happenings of Lakota's first two weeks back, including:

- Using student voice to welcome back staff;
- A unique way to spend the first two days of school;
- A great back-to-school read on Lakota's Learning Blog; and
- New security measures now in place.

[Click here to watch this month's edition](#) and stay tuned for more video updates as the year continues. Here WE go!

[View All
District News](#)

FEATURED PHOTOS



Future Hawks Night was held on Aug. 24 at Lakota East prior to the varsity football game. East ECS and elementary feeder schools were invited to take part in lots of family-friendly fun. The schools participated in a parade and the younger students even got to form a tunnel on the field for the players. The evening was capped off with a Lakota East win and fireworks. [Click here to view a video](#) from Future Hawks Night.



LAKOTA WEST'S SEASON OPENER AT

Paul Brown Stadium



Lakota West High School hosted its football season opener on Aug. 24 at Paul Brown Stadium, where the team faced off against St. Xavier High School.

“The thrill of being able to play in Paul Brown Stadium is a once in a lifetime opportunity - for our players, cheerleaders, marching band and fans,” said Athletic Director Scott Kaufman. “It's been nearly 10 years since a high school team has played in this venue, so we were grateful for the opportunity.”

Photo credit: Jenny Walters Photography



Lakota East seniors used their day off school on Tuesday to transform their parking spaces into works of art! Be sure to stop by some evening or weekend when school is not in session to view all of the creativity and inspirational messages.

The school partnered with the PTO to offer students a chance to express themselves and bring about unity. Senior **Laura Zajbel** is shown above making an Army star in honor of her boyfriend who is currently in basic training. Next to her, **Ali Neumeier** is creating a tie-dye masterpiece. The project was so popular that East has set aside another painting day so that more students -- and staff -- can participate.

NEW BUSINESS

Announcements & Opportunities

Student Fanfares are Back!

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:

VanGorden Elementary

Sept. 17
8 a.m.

Wyandot ECS

Sept. 27
8:50 a.m.

Limited-Time Back-to-School Promotion in Lakota's Online Spirit Wear Shop

ON THE RADAR

Announcements & Opportunities

New Families: Join Us for Sept. 15 Ice Cream Social

For families new to Lakota Schools this year, the district is offering an opportunity to meet other new families and get to know the Lakota community a little better.

The Lakota Outreach Diversity and Inclusion (LODI) department, along with the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance's Leadership 21 class of 2018, invites all new families to its annual ice cream social on Saturday, Sept. 15 from 1-3 p.m. The gathering will take place at Heritage Early Childhood School, located at 5052 Hamilton-Mason Road in Liberty Township.

Attendees will be able to make connections with district leaders, families and community organizations to learn about what resources and opportunities exist, at their school and all around the district. All family members are welcome to come and enjoy ice cream sundaes, games and activities.

The host group, LODI, works within our schools to build stronger communities and increase parents' involvement in their child's education. [Click here to view the event flyer.](#)

To celebrate the start of a new school year, Lakota is proud to offer the community reduced rates on select district apparel in its online spirit wear shop. This [limited-time promotional offer ends Sept. 21](#).

With last year's launch of our first-ever online spirit wear shop, it was fun to see people showing their Lakota pride," said Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller. "We've added this year's 'Here WE Go' theme to the store and we're excited to be offering some fun new options for our youngest Lakota fans, too!"

On top of the discounted prices, all orders placed during the promotional period will not be subject to sales tax or shipping (normally \$6.95). The district has arranged for all orders to be shipped directly to your building of choice no later than Oct. 5. _

You will be notified by email when your shipment has arrived and is available for pick-up at the Lakota building you selected during checkout. In general, apparel runs true to size, with the exception of performance wear (runs small). No refunds or exchanges will be accepted for size changes.

Lakota staff have been invited by email to take advantage of a staff-specific promotional offer.

Lakota's online spiritwear shop is open 24/7. It offers a wide range of customized Lakota-branded options, including apparel in men's, women's, youth and now infant sizes. Other branded items like headwear, bags and blankets can be customized to display the design and color of your choice. As part of the district's partnership with Rokkitwear, 15 percent of all regular sales will be applied to student programming.

West's 'Volley for the Cure' Sept. 13

As part of the Susan G. Komen Foundation's "Volley for the Cure," the Lakota West volleyball community has organized activities for breast cancer awareness.

Throughout the afternoon, the teams will be honoring people affected by breast cancer by placing their names displayed on Main Street, and the names will be announced at the game. Local survivors and families of those who have passed due to breast cancer are invited to the event.

Sept. 22 Parent CommUnity University Topic: "The Land of Lakota"

Lakota Local Schools announces its first-ever Family & Parent CommUnity University hosted by Lakota's Outreach, Diversity & Inclusion (LODI) department, in partnership with Miami University Voice of America.

The classes will kick off Saturday, Sept. 22 from 8 a.m. to noon at Miami VOA with an engaging first session, "The Land of Lakota." Assistant Superintendent Robb Vogelmann and Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction Keith Koehne will help acclimate families to the range of opportunities available to Lakota students. This will include special attention to Lakota's district-wide focus on the E+R=O model, which encourages students and staff to press pause and consider the consequences before reacting to a situation.

The general session will be followed by two smaller breakouts led by the elementary and secondary curriculum directors, where attendees will learn more about Lakota's curriculum, including how to most effectively use tools like Home Access Center and Canvas.

Each monthly session will be 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, but registration is encouraged. [Click here to register for the Sept. 22 session](#). Visit the [CommUnity University page on Lakota's website](#) for more information and future session information.

LEADS Hosts Family Picnic & Book Club Sept. 9 & 11

LEADS (Lakota Enrichment & Academic Development of Students), a parent support group for students who have been identified as gifted, will host its first two events of the year at Freedom Elementary School's LifeLAB butterfly garden.

The annual family picnic will take place on Sept. 9 at 5 p.m. Families are encouraged to come with questions about gifted services, along with a blanket and food to enjoy a meal with other Lakota families. LEADS will

The UC Health Mobile Diagnostic Van will be on site at Lakota West High School performing mammograms from 3 - 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 13. Please schedule your appointment (required) by calling (513) 584-PINK (7465).

Raffles, split the pot, a silent auction, sports memorabilia auction, and educational games will be held before, during, and after the matches, and food will be available.

Members of Lakota West's chorus will be performing the national anthem with ASL students signing the anthem. The Firebird cheerleaders will also be on the sidelines and the Lakota West Dance team will perform during the varsity match.

"Volley for the Cure" event t-shirts will be sold for \$5. T-shirts can be purchased in the cafeteria at all high school lunch periods and at Lakota West home volleyball games, or you can contact the school. Admission to the event is \$3.00 (adults) and \$1.00 (students/senior citizens).

Schedule of Events

4:30-8:30 p.m.- Main Street Games, Raffles and Refreshments

5:30 p.m.-Survivor's Hospitality Room in LW Community Room

4:30 p.m.: Freshman Match

5:30 p.m.: Junior Varsity Match

6:30 p.m.: West Staff Match

7:30 p.m.: West vs. Princeton Varsity Match

Junior School Cross Country Host Elementary Running Series Sept. 17, 24

In an effort to introduce more area youth to running, the Lakota junior high cross country teams are again hosting their Lakota Elementary Cross Country Series designed for students in grades K-6. The running program includes one mile races at Plains Junior on Monday, Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. and at Hopewell Junior on Monday, Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. These one-mile fun runs will give out medals to the top 15 boys and top 15 girls.

These races will lead up to the 1.5-mile 'Run for Youth' race sponsored by the Lakota Optimist Club on Saturday, Oct. 6 at 9 a.m. Although this race is designed for area students in grades K-6,

provide dessert. At 5:45, a special guest will lead a discussion and activities centered around Freedom's butterfly garden.

Member-only door prizes will be given out. [Click here to register for the picnic.](#)

The group's September book club for students in grades 2-6 is scheduled for Sept. 11 from 6:30-8 p.m. Book club selections include:

- Rockin' Readers (grades 2-4) - Marty McGuire Digs Worms! by Kate Messner
- Novel Bunch (grades 4-6) - The Secret Garden written by Frances Hodgson Burnett

This month's book club will be outside, so dress for the weather and bring a towel or blanket to sit on during book discussion. In the event of rain, the event will be moved inside Freedom. [View the book club flyer](#) for more information and [click here to register.](#)

Events hosted by LEADS are open to all Lakota students. For more information, visit the [Lakota LEADS website](#) or contact president@lakotaleads.org. [Click here to become a LEADS member.](#)

Help Celebrate Liberty ECS' 90th Birthday

Join the Lakota community in celebrating the 90th birthday of Liberty Early Childhood School. The event will take place on Sunday, Sept. 16, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Held in conjunction with the Liberty Township Historical Society, guests will enjoy visiting the ECS, as well as the Hughes School next door. A time capsule that was buried in 1976 by the Liberty Township Historical Society will be opened at approximately 1:30 p.m.

[Click here to view the event flyer.](#)

parents and others are welcome to register and participate (only K-6 runners will receive awards). Runners are encouraged to register by September 23 in order to receive their T-shirts on race day.

[Click here to view a flyer with more details about the running series.](#)

Future Firebirds Night Set for Sept. 21

The Lakota West Athletic Boosters will be hosting their annual Pig Roast and Future Firebirds events on Sept. 21.

The Future Firebirds night will begin at 5 p.m. and last for an hour. Future West students from Heritage, Creekside, Shawnee, Cherokee, Endeavor, Freedom, and Adena may attend the game for **free!**

There will be inflatables and snacks free of charge for the kids. Adults will be charged admission to the football game. In addition, the Boosters are hosting a Pig Roast in the West Auxiliary Gym starting at 5:30 p.m. through the start of the football game. Tickets are \$10 each. If you or your students and their families would like to attend the Pig Roast, tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.lakotawestboosters.com/shop> Tickets ordered online will be available at Will Call.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Event Spotlights

- Sunday, September 9
[LEADS Family Picnic](#)
at Freedom Elementary
5 p.m.
- Thursday, September 13
Volley for the Cure

LATEST E-FLYERS



What's New This Week?

As a reminder, E-Flyers is Lakota's way of distributing information about programs, classes, events and opportunities happening in our schools and around the community. Rather than sending flyers home with students, we are now posting all approved information on the E-Flyer page, making it easy for families to access all current opportunities.

at Lakota West Main Campus
4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

- Saturday, September 15
[District-Wide Ice Cream Social for New Families](#)
at Heritage ECS
1 - 3 p.m.
- Sunday, September 16
[Liberty ECS 90th Birthday Party](#)
at Liberty ECS
1 - 3 p.m.
- Monday, September 17
[Community Fanfare for Students at VanGorden Elementary](#)
8:00 - 8:20 a.m.
- Saturday, September 22
[Parent CommUnity University: "The Land of Lakota"](#)
at Miami VOA Campus
8 a.m. - noon
- Monday, September 24
[Board of Education Meeting](#)
at Plains Junior School, Media Center
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, September 27
[Community Fanfare for Students at Wyandot ECS](#)
8:50 - 9:10 a.m.

Here is a listing of all of the new district and community-sponsored flyers for this week.

District-Sponsored Flyers:

[Lakota Elementary Running Series, hosted by Lakota Junior Schools Cross Country \(Grades K-6, Sept. 17 & 24\)](#)

Community-Sponsored Flyers:

[2018 TBird Coaches Meeting and General Basketball Signups: Sept. 15 \(Grades 1-12\)](#)

[Ages & Stages Monthly Event Series: Sept. 15 topic is 'Raising Confident Kids'](#)

[Lakota Thunderbird Girls Basketball Clinic: Aug. 30 or Sept 11. Girls \(Grades 1-3\)](#)

[Shrek the Musical by Acting Up: Sept. 21-23](#)

[Liberty Township Fall Festival: Sept. 29](#)

[Upward Basketball & Cheer Registration: Grades K-6](#)

**All Current
E-Flyers**

**See Full
Calendar**



5572 Princeton Road, Liberty Township, OH. 45011-9726

(513) 874-5505

lakota@lakotaonline.com