



This Week At Lakota

Instilling Pride. Igniting Passion. Infinite Possibilities.

November 11, 2016

Leading the Way

New 'Inside Your Schools' Videos and Honoring a State Champion



Inside Your Schools Chapter 4: The Power of Technology & Data

Click the above photo to view the "Inside Your School" series. Videos on "The Power of Technology & Data" and "Embracing a Diverse Community" were released this week.



Lakota East junior Dustin Horter and Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Rich Bryant are showered with ticker tape during the school's congratulations ceremony. Horter recently won the Division I state cross country title.

New This Week: 'Inside Your Schools' Video Series Features Technology, Diversity

The next two chapters in Lakota's new eight-part video series, "Inside Your Schools," are now available. Please take a moment to learn more about two more priorities guiding our work at Lakota: [The Power of Technology & Data](#) and [Embracing a Diverse Community](#).

This week, we discuss how technology has literally transformed Lakota's approach to personalized education. Beyond just updating our infrastructure, staff have grown to embrace new ways of using that technology to enhance student learning. We are focused on helping students use these tools to problem solve as they will one day in the workforce. It's also proved a great tool for assessing

Lakota East's Dustin Horter a Cross Country State Champion

"It really meant a lot to me to see the entire school here, helping me celebrate," said Lakota East junior **Dustin Horter** following a ticker tape parade down the school's Main Street. With piles of confetti raining down on him to the cheers of his fellow students, the whole event was almost overwhelming.

"I'm just so grateful to everyone who supported me throughout the season," said the state boys cross country champion. "I knew they had my back and were encouraging me the entire time."

student growth and helping tailor instruction to meet each individual student's needs.

The fifth video in the series celebrates a demographic trend at Lakota defined by steady changes in the cultural, racial, socioeconomic and cognitive make-up of our students and families. As the needs widen, Lakota is focused on better understanding that diversity and partnering with students and their families for the best possible outcomes. Much of this work is wrapped up in a new staff training program called "[Champions for Change](#)."

Each part in this new series focuses on different priorities shaping the educational experience we strive to create for every single Lakota student.

Stay tuned for the remaining chapters 6-8 over the next two weeks. Next week, we'll focus on "Communications and Customer Service" and "Giving Back to Our Community." The complete series will be available at www.lakotaonline.com/insideyourschools.

Horter was crowned the Division I state champion Nov. 5 following the 5,000-meter race at National Trail Raceway. "We started out hard and it wasn't going the way I would have preferred," explained Horter. "But I stayed persistent and just kept going."

The last 400 meters made the difference as that's when Horter was able to overtake Olentangy Orange senior Hunter Moore after he stumbled. "It was a mixture of joy and concern for Hunter as I crossed the line," admitted Horter.

"Dustin is a true athlete, someone who loves the competition and especially in bettering himself," stated Rich Bryant, Lakota East assistant principal and athletic director. "He's an inspiration to others because he really pushes himself and strives to improve. And he is a great representative of the competitive spirit, since he always stays after he's done to shake hands and congratulate the other competitors."

"I like to show my respect to the other runners," states Horter. "I know how hard they're working and they deserve to be congratulated for what they are accomplishing."

During Wednesday's parade, all eyes were on Horter as the school celebrated his big win. "I really enjoyed this morning and I'm going to use it as my motivation to keep pushing myself," states the junior in defending his title next year. "I know there will be a target on my back, but, God willing, I'll be able to again do my best."

Around Lakota

School Spotlights

Lakota Community Stocks Reach Out Lakota Shelves through December



Lakota West principal Elgin Card and student Kiantae Webb applaud as Courtney Whited and Corey Piper accept the traveling trophy from Lakota Board of Education President Lynda O'Connor.

The annual "Reach In for Reach Out Lakota" food drive, hosted by the Lakota Board of Education, is the single largest source of donations all year long for the local food pantry.

"We are always amazed at the generosity of the Lakota School District for this event. The fact that the school board, staff, students and parents pull together to help their neighbors is a testament to the district leadership," said Lourdes A. Ward, CEO of Reach Out Lakota.

"On behalf of the board, we'd like to thank and express our pride in our students, teachers, and administrators for their generous giving back to our community," said Lynda O'Connor, president of Lakota's Board of Education. "We also thank our volunteer judges for their assistance in determining the winner of the drive - it was a tough call to make this year."

This year's district-wide drive, which ended Oct. 28 at the East vs. West football game, filled two pod containers. According to Ward, "The first pod took two days to unload into the building and we are still trying to sort and put the contents into inventory. The delivery driver said it was the heaviest one he has delivered to us yet."

Workers and volunteers at the non-profit are still trying to empty the second pod, which is estimated to be as heavy as the first one. Ward adds that the Lakota community contributions will stock Reach Out Lakota's shelves throughout December, even through the busy late fall and winter months.

The organization serves about 2,200 clients during regular distribution hours three days a week, in addition to a large distribution of Thanksgiving meals. "Families are very grateful to receive such bountiful amounts in their food orders," Ward adds.

The annual competition plays off the spirit of the East vs. West football game, pitting Lakota's East side schools against the West side schools. The West side schools brought in the most donations and retained this year's trophy.

Lakota Gives Back: High Schools Hold Record-Setting Events for Breast Cancer Awareness, Research



The volleyball teams at Lakota East (above) and West (right) both host big events to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. Over \$25,000 was raised through this year's efforts alone.



Lakota West's 'Volley for the Cure' and East's 'Hawks for the Cure' events have done more than raise an amazing \$150,000 in support of the Susan G. Komen Fund for breast cancer awareness and research.

Both programs find unique ways to get their students and the community involved in their efforts. Most of the events honor breast cancer survivors in some fashion, and promote an authentic feeling of sportsmanship, sense of community and some fun aspects.

More than 1,200 people attended the tenth annual Volley for the Cure at Lakota West on Sept. 13. The volleyball teams host the event but fourteen different student groups were involved in the overall effort.

"This year's Volley for the Cure was record setting in many categories: largest contribution to Komen (\$13,172.96), largest number of businesses contributing to the event (243), largest number of those affected by breast cancer recognized at the event (35 families). Thank you to the team and the army of volunteers for organizing such a wonderful event," said West's Volleyball Coach Tracey Kornau. During the event, Atrium Medical Women's Center had nurses available to educate and answer questions and the Premier Health mobile mammography van was also on-site.

Lakota East hosts a series of programs during Breast Cancer Awareness month. The volleyball team has a big event with lots of fun activities, and the girls soccer team and football also held events. Hawks for the Cure t-shirts and promotional materials were sold, and every penny that is collected is donated to

the Susan G. Komen Foundation. There was a renewed focus this year on early detection and a mobile mammography van was stationed at several of the events.

“This year’s Hawks for the Cure campaign truly stretched across the Eastside as nearly every single feeder school joined forces for this very worthy service initiative,” said East Athletic Director Rich Bryant.

“It is an amazing thing to be a part of – students, office staff, teachers and administrators worked together to raise awareness in hopes of raising money for a cure!”

Bryant estimates that when the final numbers are tallied, East will donate around \$12,000 to the cause.

The student leaders of these programs at Lakota East and West were recently honored at the Oct. 24 Board of Education Meeting.

All year long, Lakota students and staff work tirelessly to support causes that make a difference in the lives of others right here in West Chester and Liberty townships, as our way for Lakota to Give Back. These two flagship efforts are wonderful examples of how our students so deeply embrace such community service.

Lakota Celebrates 20 Early Signers for Six Sports

This week Lakota celebrated twenty senior student-athletes’ early decisions to continue their education while playing a sport in college. The group represented six different NCAA sports. The early signing period, open from Nov. 9 to Nov. 16, recognizes early decisions for all sports except soccer and football, which will be recognized during the “regular” signing day on Feb. 1.

Lakota East and West both held special ceremonies on Wednesday to recognize the student-athletes.

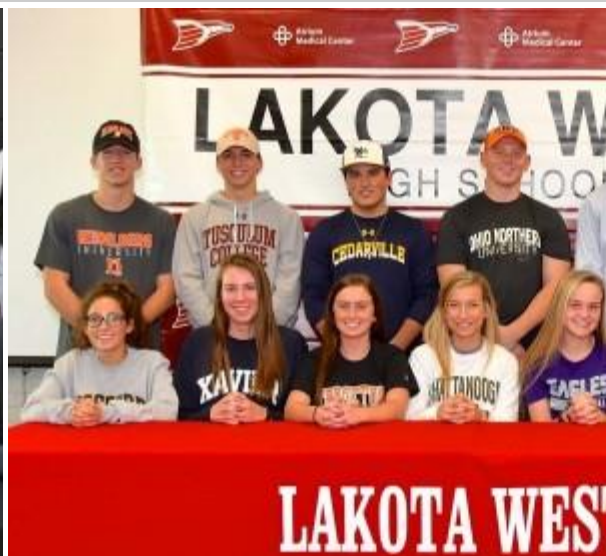


Photo courtesy of Trim Photo

*Photo courtesy of
Jenny Walters Photography*

LAKOTA EAST

Girls Volleyball

Alexis Adleta (The University of Akron)
 Edie Brewer (North Carolina Agricultural
 and Technical State University)
 Kennedee Card (Cincinnati Christian University)

Basketball

Evan Kuhlman (The University of Evansville)

Softball

Rachel Lewis (Northwestern University)

Girls Lacrosse

Emily Polivick (Ursuline College)

LAKOTA WEST

Track and Cross Country

Meredith Elstun (Ohio University)

Girls Volleyball

Haley Bergheger (Georgetown College)
 Megan Kaufman (UT-Chattanooga)
 Maya Krause (Xavier University)

Softball

Taylor Bramlett (Cincinnati Christian University)
 Megan Brankamp (Georgetown College)

Baseball

Alex Dodson (Ohio Northern University)
 Josh Harrison (Wake Technical Community
 College)
 Eric Hooper (Heidelberg University)
 Jacob Kates (High Point University)

Girls Lacrosse

Emily Elstun (Wofford College)

New Business

Announcements & Opportunities

Text-A-Tip Program Another Avenue for Safety Tips

Students are often the first people to hear rumors – so why not ensure there’s a way for them to quickly and privately report any safety concerns? That’s the concept behind Lakota’s new “Text-A-Tip” program which will soon be launched.

According to Krysta Weizman, president of the District Parent Council, “The program is designed to protect our students by encouraging and providing the means for students to instantly and privately report tips to prevent school violence.”

“We’re pleased we can offer this option to our students, knowing that their quick sharing of information is a crucial component of prevention,” states Acting Superintendent Robb Vogelmann. “Students often hear rumors and, because we take the safety of our students as paramount, each and every report shared through this and other safety tip programs is always researched by our school resource officers and school or district administration.”

Working in collaboration with the Butler County Sheriff’s Department, the idea is to help students overcome the stigma that “telling is bad.” By offering an option to text 911, students better understand that reporting the concern is different from tattling.

Weizman adds, “Students can also report the information directly, if they so choose via a phone call, talking to a teacher, counselor or principal or contacting the school resource office. This new texting option is simply an additional channel for them, to ensure students have as many avenues as

On The Radar

Quick Links & Reminders

East's Craft Show This Weekend

The Lakota East Craft Show will be held on Saturday and Sunday at the high school’s main campus. The event is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12, with a \$2 general admission fee. Early bird entry from 9 - 10 a.m. is available for a \$5 admission charge. Visitors can also attend the show on Sunday between 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Please visit the [show’s website](#) for more information, including a complete list of artisans. [Click here for a flyer with more details.](#)

Superintendent Search Community Input Deadline Extended

Your input regarding Lakota's next superintendent is welcomed and

possible to share such important information. We want to make it easy and timely for students to share.”

As an added incentive, any student who reports information that leads to or helps resolve a situation and who chooses to share his or her name, will be given a small reward, similar to the popular “crime stoppers” programs. The incentives are being subsidized by the Lakota Parent Organizations.

Both high schools are producing and videotaping a skit to help share the message. To help provide context and foster discussion, counselors and resource officers will present the video to students district-wide.

For more on this program, please contact Krysta Weizman at kweizman@gmail.com.

Reach Out Lakota's Holiday Giving Program Now Underway

Show that you care this holiday season by sharing what you can with those in need and giving back to the West Chester & Liberty township community.

Reach Out Lakota’s annual holiday giving program, called “Care, Share, Give,” brings the joy of the season to local families that struggle to provide for their children. This year, Reach Out Lakota expects to assist about 800 local children and their families.

Individuals and groups are asked to help in any of the following ways:

1. [SPONSOR](#) a child by donating a new toy or gift card valued at \$25
2. [PARTNER](#) with the program by organizing a giving tree or toy drive
3. [DONATE](#) funds to the program; we’ll shop for you!

[Click here](#) for more information or to make your donation or email Andrea Subler at asubler@reachoutlakota.org or Sue Cheney at scheney@reachoutlakota.org.

encouraged - but you need to act fast as the deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 15. Note that this deadline has been extended from Nov. 11; however, due to the selection timeline, any questionnaire submitted after the Nov. 15 deadline will not be included in the compilation.

All parents, staff members, students, business owners and residents in the Lakota community are encouraged to complete and submit a [Search Profile Criteria Questionnaire](#) by Nov. 15. Completed questionnaires may be dropped off at Lakota’s Central Office or returned via email or fax.

[Click here](#) for more information about the superintendent’s search, including a timeline of the selection process.

Lakota's Got Talent Set for Nov. 15

It’s almost time for Lakota’s favorite talent show – Lakota’s Got Talent, sponsored by the Community Foundation’s Youth in Philanthropy. The event will be held Tuesday, Nov. 15 at the Lakota West Freshman Campus.

This year, the annual talent show has been widened to include both staff and students. Individual and group performances are welcome. Tickets are \$5 and there is a \$25

family cap. Doors open at 6 p.m. [Click here to view a flyer](#) with more details.

Students Invited to Enter Contest Honoring MLK, Jr.

The 18th annual *Live the Dream: Our Declaration of Unity* event to honor the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will take place on Jan. 16, and includes a contest for all students in grades K-12 who reside within the Lakota Local School District.

This year it focuses on Dr. King's idea of the 'Beloved Community'. Students in junior high and high school are encouraged to submit in writing the equivalent of a two-minute speech. Elementary students may respond through the artistic medium of their choice or through writing. Groups are also invited to enter with skits, songs, artwork or videos that can be presented within the two-minute time limit. Entries are due on Monday, Nov. 28. [Click here for more details and an entry form](#).

Connect with Lakota's Superintendent, Treasurer

Interested in meeting Lakota's administrators? Have a question or curious about their plans for the district?

Each month, Lakota's Acting Superintendent Robb Vogelmann and Treasurer Jenni Logan will host informal coffee chats out in the community. For an hour, both will be available for drop-in conversation with parents and residents at local coffee houses as part of a new initiative called Coffee Connections.

Mark the following dates on your calendars, enjoy a coffee and make connections as you learn about your school district:

- Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2- 3 p.m. – location to be determined
 - None in December due to the holidays
 - Wednesday, Jan. 25 10-11 a.m. - Coffee Beans and Brew, 7051 Yankee Road, Liberty Township
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Photo of the Week

Wyandot Students Look Up to Lakota East "Big Stars"



Wyandot students play a game with the assistance of their Lakota East buddies, part of the schools' "Big Star/Little Star" program. Around the table from left to right are **Kylan Thomas, Juan Flores Lozano, Bemni Amsalu, Nigel Wade, Alex Szuch, Carson Sorrell** and **Jesse Alejandro Ferris**. Twice a month the buddies visit, learning from one another.

By coupling a student from Wyandot Early Childhood School with a "buddy" from Lakota East, a program helps both ages of students. Called "Big Star/Little Star" the program fosters informal interaction, giving the younger students a role model and boosting the leadership skills of the high schoolers.

According to Wyandot Principal Mary Brophy, "Our Big Star/Little Star program is a great opportunity for our young students to interact with members of the Lakota community that they can strive to be. Our high school students serve as an excellent example of what it means to be respectful, responsible, safe Lakota student."

Twice a month the high school students, who volunteer to participate the program, visit Wyandot and spend time with their buddy in a variety of activities such as reading, playing games or just being a friend. Brophy adds, "Our little stars await their big buddies with excitement. They look forward to the time together and the bond they are building."

Coordinated by Jennifer Gillum, Wyandot school counselor, and Alicia Roberson, counselor at Lakota East, the program fosters a sense of responsibility and giving back.

According to Angie Brown, Lakota's community engagement coordinator, "This is a great way for our high school students to put into action what they're learning about community service."

Upcoming Events

Event Spotlights

- [Monday, Nov. 21](#)
Board of Education Meeting - Central Office
7 p.m.
- [Wednesday, Nov. 23](#)
No School for Students (in lieu of conferences)

Lakota In The News

Community Coverage

- Cincinnati.com**
[Lakota East Celebrates Dustin Horter](#)
- [Empty Bowls fundraiser supports summer lunches](#)

Latest E-Flyers

What's News 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

- [Thursday, Nov. 24 - Friday, Nov. 25](#)
District Closed for Thanksgiving
- [Wednesday, Nov. 30](#)
Coffee Connections with the Superintendent, Treasurer - Cappucino Depot
2 - 3 p.m.

Journal-News

[No-shave November fundraiser will help Hamilton family](#)

[Lakota teacher found passion for role at an orphanage](#)

[Lakota tries social media video series for promoting message](#)

[Messy presidential campaign challenges area teachers' classrooms](#)

[Cheaper Lakota school fees haven't led more students to play -- yet](#)

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

District-Sponsored:

- [Chess Club Registration \(Grades 2-6\)](#)
- [Chess Club Registration \(Grades 7-8\)](#)

Community-Sponsored Flyers:

- [3-on-3 Basketball Tournament \(All ages\) - Nov. 19](#)
- [It's a Wonderful Life Radio Play \(Dec. 15, 16, 18\)](#)
- [Santa's Brunch at VOA \(Dec. 11\)](#)
- [Reach Out Lakota's Holiday Giving Program](#)
- [Thunderbird Basketball Sign-Up \(Gr 7-12\) - Nov.12](#)
- [Liberty Township's Breakfast with Santa \(Dec.3\)](#)
- [PYO Baseball & Softball Registration \(Ages 5-18\)](#)

[See Full Calendar](#)

[All Current E-Flyers](#)

Lakota Central Office

5572 Princeton Road
Liberty Township, OH 45011-9726
Phone: (513) 874-5505

Lakota@lakotaonline.com

