

March 9, 2018



**WE are Lakota**







## New Culinary Center at Union Promotes Healthy Eating Habits

If you've noticed the waning selection of kale at Kroger, it just may be attributed to the new culinary center at Union Elementary School.

"We like to think we had something to do with that," laughed Union Principal **Kyle Lichey**, recalling that news he heard from a parent as he joined a class of sixth-graders chopping, mixing and taste-testing a kale salad they learned to make in the new space. For many, it was their first-ever taste of kale and by and large, it received rave reviews.

"I never realized kale could be so good in a salad," said Union sixth-grader **Olivia Taylor**. "It changed my view of vegetables. I learned that you can create things that are outside your comfort level that are still good."

"Junk food is tasty, but sometimes kids don't realize that healthy food can also taste good," said Union sixth-grader **Austin Mundy**.

Originally the vision of former Union Principal **Ben Brown** (now principal at Ridge Junior School), the center was launched with the support of Lakota's Child Nutrition Department, Assistant Principal **Gina Sansone** and teachers **Julie Kellerman, Katie Bohn, Tricia Adkins, Jackie Bender** and **Beth Fintel**. Lichey has received feedback from several parents, describing the sudden positive swing in their children's eating habits. One Union parent described her son's sudden interest in cooking. All week long he planned out the ingredients he would need to make kale salad for his family, she said.

"It's so much more than teaching them the mechanics of cooking," Lichey said. "It's about battling kids' food insecurities and promoting the fact that a healthy body makes for a healthy mind. By teaching them the health benefits of food and how it positively affects their bodies, my hope is that it establishes lifelong eating habits."

Beginning in February, classes at every grade level have been rotating through the new space. Every day during Tutoring & Enrichment, for four weeks at a time, students visit the center with their teacher. Lessons feature kitchen and food safety, nutrition education and hands-on, interactive cooking demonstrations and meal preparation skills.

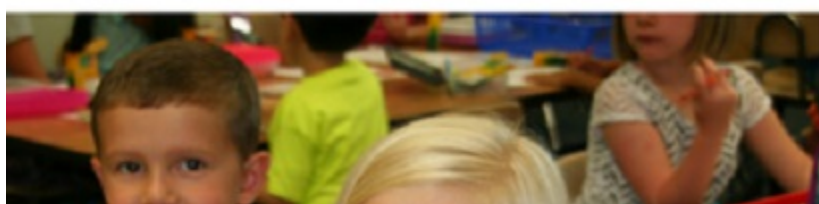
Students work in groups to prepare simple nutritious recipes like no bake apple tart, polka dot orzo salad and pumpkin spice french toast. The activities oftentimes incorporate concepts overlapping core subject areas like math and geography, too.

"It's already proven a great tool for breaking through to students who don't get excited about learning in more traditional ways," Lichey said. "Plus, wellness is a pillar of the educational experience we strive to create at Union. We sincerely believe in the power of giving our students the tools and knowledge they need to make more healthy dietary choices."

*Photo: Union sixth-graders (left to right) **Aidan Terry, Cayle Reichow, Alexandra Mosher** and **Alyssa Hill** work together to prepare their super kale salad.*

# **NEW:** Inside Lakota Learning Blog

Subscribe ►



## Lakota Learning Team Launches New Blog

Lakota educators will be the voice behind the all-new “Inside Lakota Learning” blog.

The Lakota learning experience is one filled with inquiry, innovation and discovery. Every student's learning style, passions and interests are different, which is why the experience of one student will never be exactly that of another. It's why Lakota teachers and support staff are committed to student-centered learning and providing a personalized approach marked by differentiated teaching methods.

Let the Lakota Learning Team explain what that means and how that goal plays out on a daily basis in our classrooms. Through this blog, they will explore important topics in education and how those impact the strategy behind Lakota's student-centered curriculum and how different methods meet students' educational needs. And because learning doesn't stop at school, they'll provide tips and strategies for how to be partners in the learning process and create a positive learning environment at home.

The blog's topics will oftentimes coincide with the parent engagement resources the Lakota Learning team has already introduced this year, including its monthly parent engagement sessions.

[Click here to read the first post from Lakota's Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Keith Koehne, and to subscribe to alerts for future posts.](#)

## SHOUT-OUTS



# SHOUT OUTS



**West Girls  
Basketball  
Team**

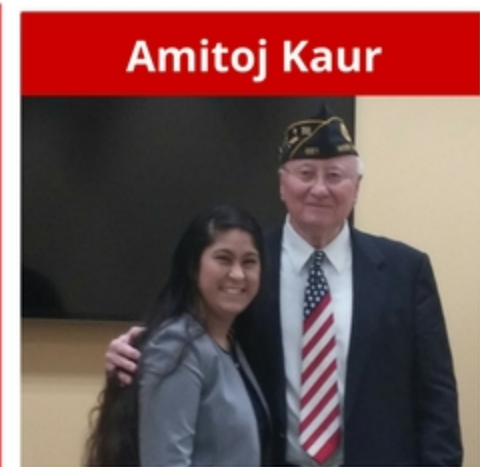


**Lakota East Boys  
Basketball Team**



**Joey Bradberry  
(left)**

**Ridge  
Eighth-Graders  
Win Contest  
(below)**



**Amitoj Kaur**



**Dustin Horter**

## Lakota West Girls Basketball Win Regional Semi-Final, Playing for Championship

The Lakota West girls basketball team is heading to the Ohio Regional Championship this weekend after beating Walnut Hills 60-31 in the Regional Semi-Final on Wednesday. The team became district champions by beating Fairmont with a score of 53-29 earlier. West (26-2) will face Mason (23-2) on Saturday at Trent Arena in Kettering, with tipoff set for 7:00 p.m. Good luck, ladies!

## Ridge Eighth-Graders Win Statewide Safety Poster Contest

Ridge Junior eighth-graders **Ella Roelker** (pictured left) and **Gwyn Barnholtz** (pictured right) designed winning posters in Ohio's junior high division of the national AAA Safety Poster contest. The contest aims to reduce traffic and pedestrian crashes, the #1 cause of death for children ages 14 and under. Ella's first place finish earned her \$125, while Gwyn won \$75 for her third place finish. Both were honored at a luncheon at the Columbus Art Museum. Great job!

## Lakota East Boys Basketball Sectional Champions

Congratulations to the Lakota East boys basketball team on becoming sectional champions. The team beat Lasalle 60-54 last Friday to earn their third sectional title. East will face Princeton for the district title on Saturday. Tipoff is at 1:00 p.m. at the University of Dayton arena. Good luck, gentlemen!

## Lakota West Wrestler Heading to State

**Joey Bradberry** is heading to Columbus this weekend to compete in the OHSA Wrestling State Championships. The Lakota West senior and GMC champion in the 160 weight class is also the sectional champion and district fourth place winner. Good luck, Joey!

## Horter Wins Another State Title

Lakota East senior, **Dustin Horter**, has added another state title to his collection. With a time of 4:07.52, Dustin set new state record in the 1600m event at the Division 1 State Indoor Track Championship and earned his fifth high school state title. Congratulations, Dustin!

## West Junior Amitoj Kaur Excels in Oratorical Contest

Lakota West junior **Amitoj Kaur** recently won the Butler County Oratorical Contest, representing American Legion Post 681 on Feb. 24. She then advanced to the District 4 Contest, where she achieved the first runner-up position in a very close competition. The Oratorical Contest is based upon the United States Constitution, and all speakers prepare an eight to ten minute speech on any aspect of the Constitution, and then have a three to five minute speech on one of four amendments drawn "from a hat". Congratulations, Amitoj!

**AROUND LAKOTA**

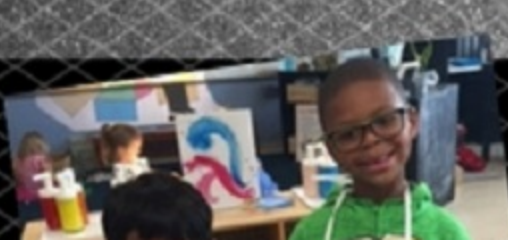


*Join Superintendent Matthew Miller at Lakota's*



# STATE OF THE SCHOOLS

March 13, 2018 • 7 p.m. • Lakota West High School



## **'State of the Schools' Set for March 13**

Superintendent Matthew Miller will deliver the district's first "State of the Schools" address on March 13. Members of the community are invited to attend. Miller will cover many topics, including success in the classroom, innovation in our schools, the district's financial stability and the exciting initiatives coming in the 2018-19 school year.

"This is an opportunity to learn about the amazing things our students and staff are doing in Lakota. I'm very excited to share with our parents and community members, and even more excited that they'll get to hear from students and staff members," Miller said.

The event takes place at Lakota West High School on Tuesday, March 13, and will begin at 7:00 p.m.







## LECS Kindergartners Love Career Days

*What do you want to be when you grow up?*

After last week's kindergarten career days, students at Liberty Early Childhood School have a better idea how to answer that question.

During career days, the students get to explore careers through books, career puppets, dress up, career bingo, guess my job game, and writing what they want to be when they grow up in booklets. Liberty ECS received a career grant that allowed the school to purchase these career materials that are age-appropriate for kindergarten.

School counselor **Dana Hallgarth** facilitates the program and says that "career days are important so that the students can learn about various jobs. We know that because of the fast pace growth of technology that many of the kindergarten students will eventually be working in jobs that have not even been created yet. But these days give the students the opportunity to begin thinking about career possibilities."

Hallgarth also said that the career days couldn't be held without a lot of teamwork from the staff and parents who help man the career stations so that students can receive the full impact of learning.





## **Art, Gym the Source of a Black History Lesson at Adena**

At Adena Elementary, daily lessons surrounding February's Black History Month culminated in a school-wide parade led by two third grade classes and combining the disciplines taught in both art and gym class.

After learning about a different historical African American every day on the morning announcements, third-graders in **Sarah Ebright's** and **Jenny Lafferty's** classes concluded the celebration by parading through the halls. Each student wore a dashiki shirt they had made under the guidance of art teacher **Cathy Dorff** and following a lesson about African culture.

The celebration featured singing and dancing to an African song called "Funga Alafia" that they practiced as part of a movement unit in gym class. The partnership between the two different disciplines is one that has been a tradition at Adena to recognize different multicultural celebrations like Diwali and the Chinese New Year.

"It's a great way to periodically bring a feeling of community back to the school," Dorff said.





Lakota West School Resource Officer Jeff Newman delivers an #IamLakota seminar on "Making Smart Choices with your Digital Footprint and Online Activities".

## East, West Sophomore Conferences Focus on Personal Growth

On Tuesday, Feb. 27, while their junior classmates took the ACT, all Lakota sophomores at both East and West enjoyed a day of workshops and speakers that encouraged personal reflection and planning.

According to West Assistant Principal **Jaclyn Cruse**, West called its event “#IamLakota.” West students were encouraged to share their beliefs and both personal and or professional journeys throughout the school day.

“#WEareLakota supports our students and families in each of their individual journeys. #IAMLakota was a day for them to reflect and plan for themselves,” said Cruse, noting session topics like digital footprints and career exploration.

East called its event “Sophomore Success Conference”. According to East Principal **Suzanna Davis**, the school brought in a variety of guest speakers. Topics included: overcoming test anxiety, mindfulness, problem solving and more.

East sophomore **Reece Burchfield**, who attended a variety of workshops that included how to break social media usage and dealing with stress, said the classes were very beneficial to her. East sophomore **Alexandra Fernholz** attended a session about distracted driving. She said the session was very important because most of her classmates are currently in the process of getting their license.





**MARCH PHOTO CONTEST:**

***#Lucky2BNLakota***

***Why do you feel lucky to be in Lakota Schools?***

**Post a photo to tell us why you feel lucky to be in Lakota Schools.**

Don't forget to tag Lakota & include #Lucky2BNLakota in your post.  
Share to rack up the likes and your chances of winning!



## Share Why You are Lucky to be in Lakota Schools

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day this month, we're asking you to tell us what makes you feel lucky to be in Lakota schools – with a photo! It can be anything from a specific teacher to a favorite class to an extra-curricular program.

Whatever it is, get creative and share a photo that illustrates that one thing or person 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.

In return, Lakota's School & Community Relations department will deliver a special surprise to the person or program on your behalf. Others around Lakota will learn more about the top winner through a story about them to be featured on Lakota's website, on Lakota's social media accounts and in 'A Look Around Lakota' District E-News.

### How to Participate:

1. Get creative and think about one person, place or thing at Lakota 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, too! Search on your social media site of choice for #Lucky2BNLakota to "like" and share your favorite submissions.



## **West Senior Selected to Attend Nobel Week in Sweden**

When an application to attend Nobel Week appeared in her inbox, Lakota West senior **Jordan Samuelson** decided she might as well give it a shot. It's a good thing she did. As a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, Jordan was one of 25 high school and college students from the United States and the University of Tokyo who were chosen to attend this week-long celebration of the Nobel prize in Stockholm, Sweden.

Traveling with her mom, Jordan attended sessions with the Nobel prize winners in economics, physics and chemistry. "It was really interesting to learn how winners are selected," Jordan said. "It was mind-blowing to see what you can get an award for," she noted after visiting the Nobel Museum and learning about past winners of the prestigious award.

Jordan also had the opportunity to attend daily events organized through the University of Stockholm, including a tour of a botanical garden that is maintained by university students and city hall, which was the favorite stop for this future civil engineer. Located next to the Baltic Sea, Jordan said, "The architecture was beautiful. They had a tapestry that the artist wanted to be a reflection of the Baltic Sea."





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**LAKOTA MILITARY**

## **Community Invited to April 5 Military Commitment Ceremony**

Lakota is inviting the community on April 5 to help honor this year's Lakota East and Lakota West graduates who have committed to serve our country through any branch of the U.S. Military.

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

The ceremony will take place at the Lakota East Freshman Campus from 7 to 8 p.m. Attendees are invited to meet our honorary students during an informal reception immediately following the program. Honorary students and their families will receive an invitation closer to the event date.





**#WEloveLakota**

**Photo Contest  
Winners**



*Winners of our #WEareLakota photo contest were recently presented with some special surprises.*

## Lakota Shares the Love with #WEloveLakota Winners

#WEloveLakota was trending most of February among Lakota's social media followers. The hashtag was attached to last month's photo contest, which inspired over 100 posts about Lakota's most loved people, places and programs. The most "liked" photo on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram were deemed our winners and received a surprise valentine delivery last week.



On Facebook, the third grade team at Independence Elementary was praised for their dedication and creativity in hosting the wax museum for their students. Teachers **Aleisha Talarek, Amy Smith, Annette Long, Marjorie Haker, Tawnya Hartman** and **Wendy Radcliffe** received a surprise “thank you” from all their students at the end of lunch.

“Indy’s third grade team is the physical representation of servant teachers,” said Principal Greg Finke. “On a daily basis they find ways to connect with their students and engage them in incredible learning opportunities – the wax museum, a walking field trip, math centers, elephant prosthetics, just to name a few. As a team, they all bring a varied list of strengths that promote leadership within the group and the Indy staff. Without them, Indy would not be the same!”

After the staff at Ridge Junior school was treated to a special Valentine’s Day surprise from their principals **Ben Brown** and **Stacey Cahill** and with the support of the school’s PTO, art teacher Amy Panfalone nominated the group for their kindness on Instagram.

“Treats were delivered personally to each classroom with a kind message of support for each teacher,” she said. “It sure is great to work at a school where our principals take time from their busy day to show gratitude to us all for our efforts. I was happy to nominate them for the #WELoveLakota challenge to show a little kindness in return.”

Adena Elementary PTO President Kathy Peterson gave a shout-out on Twitter to her daughter’s fourth grade teacher, **Whitney Geoppinger**, for taking the time to attend her basketball game. The winning entry yielded a surprise recognition on Adena’s morning announcements.

“Whitney is an important part of the Adena school community,” Adena Principal John Mattingly said. “She represents our staff at our monthly PTO meetings, partnering with our parents and families. She really cares about her kids!”

## FEATURED PHOTOS



Lakota held its sixth annual Summer Fun Fair open house events this week. More than 100 vendors, including the Great Miami Rowing Company (pictured above), drew hundreds of Lakota families for the area's largest display of summer youth activities. [Click here to view a Facebook album showing just some of the highlights.](#)







*Students in Mrs. Gregory's class at Shawnee Early Childhood School had fun celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday (also known as National Read Across America Day).*



*Lakota East Junior Jack McKain (center), also a student in the Butler Tech engineering class, worked with staff members Jesse Dornan and Matt Benjamin to develop a camera mount / holder for fellow students Bitsy Summers (left) and Tristan Phillips (right) in his photography class. The mount will help them support the camera while taking photos.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

#### **Help Decide Lakota's Educators of Excellence, Nominations Due April 9**

Following with tradition, the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty, in partnership with Lakota Local Schools, is currently accepting nominations for the 2018 "Lakota Educator of Excellence Awards."

The award is made possible with generous support from the Community Foundation. 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.

This 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 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 in the classroom. 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 and the Community Foundation.

## ON THE RADAR

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

#### **Lakota Pi Day is Tonight!**

Lunar rock samples, cosmic rays, a human brain, live animals, Star Wars character and much more will be part of the fun.

Lakota Pi Day is on Friday, March 9 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. at Lakota West High School. There will be fun math and science activities at over 40 stations. Pi Day is a free event geared toward students in grades K-8.

[Click here for a flyer](#) with more details about this annual event hosted by the Lakota LEADS parent organization.

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#### **Write Challenge Entries Due March 11**

Is your student a budding Shakespeare? Or the next Elizabeth Barrett Browning?

LEADS (Lakota's Enrichment and Academic Development of Students) is excited to announce The Write Challenge writing contest for all Lakota students K-12. This year's theme is CHANGE.

Students can submit an essay, narrative, poem or all 3. Entries are due on March 11 and must be submitted electronically. Students and families can learn more about the Challenge and obtain entry forms at the LEADS website. For questions, contact [president@lakotaleads.org](mailto:president@lakotaleads.org).

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Nominations are due Monday, April 9. [Click here to download the 2018 Educator of Excellence nomination form.](#) Questions may be directed to Karen Gibbs at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty – [karen.gibbs@wclfoundation.org](mailto:karen.gibbs@wclfoundation.org) or 513.682.8061.

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## **Monthly 'Storytime & Supper with the Superintendent' Kicks off March 20**

As part of its ongoing efforts to build community support around early literacy, Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller will be hosting “Storytime & Supper with the Superintendent.”

“I’m all for doing anything that’s going to get our students excited about and motivated by reading,” Miller said. “It’s an added bonus to see our local businesses supporting and investing in the cause, too.”

Beginning March 20, on the third Tuesday of each month, Lakota elementary students are invited to O’Charley’s Restaurant (7866 Tylersville Road in West Chester), where children 10 and under eat free. From 6:30 - 8 p.m., students can enjoy a meal and hear Superintendent Miller share one of his favorite stories.

Space is limited. [Please follow this link to pre-register](#) for one or more upcoming events.

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## **'Encouraging Independent Learners' Next in Parent Engagement Series**

In addition to its all-new Facebook Live parent engagement series, Lakota is bringing parents monthly learning opportunities in a more traditional format.

On Thursday, March 15, the focus will turn to “Encouraging Independent Learners.” Learn how to encourage your child to think, act and pursue their studies independently and outside of school. This is a critical skill for our students as they prepare for graduation and one that our speakers will guide parents toward supporting.

## **Kindergarten Registration Begins March 12**

Open registration for the revamped all-day kindergarten option for all students will begin on March 12 and run through April 6.

With the recently announced changes for the 2018-19 school year, all students will be eligible for the all-day kindergarten option, with the option to enroll in the half-day program, if desired. School assignments based on the realigned attendance boundaries will be available by Jan. 24.

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 2018-19 school year. Families can register for kindergarten at the Lakota Enrollment Center (8735 Cincinnati-Dayton Road).

Enrollment applications are now available on the [enrollment section of Lakota Online](#). All questions can be directed to the Enrollment Center at (513) 682-4120.

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## **Next Coffee Chat is March 14**

Join Lakota Superintendent Matt Miller at his next monthly Community Coffee Chat Wednesday, March 14 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Coffee Beans and Brew, located at 7051 Yankee Road in Liberty Township.

One of the top priorities for Lakota’s superintendent is to get out in the community and listen to as many students, staff members, parents, residents and community and business leaders as possible. For an hour on the first Wednesday every month (with some exceptions), Superintendent Miller will be available for drop-in conversation with parents and residents at local coffee shops (rotating between West Chester and Liberty Township locations). The times will also vary to accommodate different schedules.

Mark your calendar for March 14 to ask questions and share your thoughts and ideas about the future of Lakota Schools. Look for more Coffee Chat times and locations on the [Superintendent page of Lakota Online](#).

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The session will take place at Lakota's Central Office from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. [View the event flyer for more details](#) and [register online here](#).

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### **Lakota Revises Daycare Transportation Service Areas for 2018-19**

For early childhood and elementary students requiring before- and after-school care, Lakota is proud to offer transportation to and from area daycare providers.

While this service currently extends to only those centers located within a student's assigned attendance zone, we are expanding those parameters to accommodate students whose daycare providers now fall outside the recently revised attendance zone boundaries. By utilizing existing routes, we can accomplish this at no added cost to the district.

[Click here to view a complete list of area daycares and the corresponding schools to which Lakota will provide transportation in the 2018-19 school year.](#) Current service areas will remain through the 17-18 school year.

Many daycares also provide their own transportation to schools not serviced by Lakota busing. Parents are encouraged to contact their daycare provider for more details.

As a reminder, parents must complete a new "Transportation / Child Care Form" with current information each school year and return to their child's school by June 15 prior to the start of the new school year. No more than one alternate location will be honored.

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### **Summer School Registration Deadline is April 6**

The 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 any one of the Ohio Graduation Tests or End-of-Course assessments or

### **Home-Schooling is Topic of Next Community Conversation**

Since 2012, Lakota Schools has been holding Community Conversations to hear your ideas, thoughts and opinions about our schools. There are many choices to be made about how schools will look and work as we move forward. These decisions need to be made as a community and with the consideration of many different voices.

Upcoming Community Conversations include:

#### **Home-Schooling Parents**

March 19  
Central Office  
6:30 – 8 p.m.

#### **Area Pastors**

April 19  
Lakota West Community Room  
6:30 – 8 p.m.

Please check our [Community Conversation webpage](#) for details.

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### **Lakota to Induct Eight Members into Athletic Hall of Fame**

The 20th annual dinner and induction ceremony to honor the newest members of the Lakota Athletic Hall of Fame will be held on Thursday, March 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wetherington Golf & Country Club.

The cost to attend is \$25 per person (which includes dinner); the deadline for registrations is March 15. For more information on the event, view the [Lakota Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony Flyer](#).

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### **West Chester Police Offering S.A.F.E. Classes for College-Bound Students**

Safety at college is a widespread concern among parents, which is why the West Chester Police Department is offering a free program focused on teaching

to participate in select math courses to qualify for advanced math placement the following school year.

Summer classes will be held at Ridge Junior School from May 29 through July 6. The registration deadline is April 6. [Click here for more details about Lakota's Summer School registration.](#)

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### Winter 2018 Newsletter Now Available

Several times a year, Lakota produces a community newsletter to help parents and residents stay informed about important district-wide news and updates. The piece is mailed to every household and business in West Chester Township and Liberty Township for just 26 cents per piece.

The winter 2018 edition was mailed to all residents last week. If you did not receive a copy at your home or if you need additional copies, please visit Lakota's Central Office or any school's main office.

Copies will also be available at the administration buildings for both West Chester and Liberty townships, as well as the West Chester MidPointe Library.

This issue focuses on how innovation is transforming the Lakota experience. The publication references many examples of innovative learning spaces and approaches such as Genius Hour, Makerspaces and Project-Based Learning. Superintendent Matthew Miller shares updates about the 2018-19 school year alongside a financial message from Lakota Treasurer Jenni Logan.

[Click here](#) to view the publication electronically.

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### Did you see the February edition of "A Look Around Lakota"?

In the February video update, Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller shares just some of the latest highlights and happenings around our district, including:

practical skills for campus safety to female high school seniors and recent graduates.

The class, held in cooperation with Lakota Schools, is designed to provide first-time college students with the tools to help them protect and defend themselves from possible threats. S.A.F.E. (Self-defense and Awareness through Fundamental Education), was created in response to parent requests and with input from Lakota faculty.

The program is free, but spaces are limited and students who register are expected to attend every day. Students can take the 10-hour class at either high school location.

Lakota East

**April 9-13**

3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

[Click here to register for this session.](#)

Lakota West

**April 16-20**

3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

[Click here to register for this session.](#)

Lakota West

**June 25-29**

12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

[Click here to register for this session.](#)

For more information, contact Officer Michelle Berling with the West Chester Police Department at (513) 759-3985.

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### Nominations Sought for Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit Awards

Nominations are being accepted now through March 21 for the 2018 district Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit award.

[Please click here](#) for the 2018 Barb Bossu 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 for those deadlines and submission details. The district and



- A special student-led partnership with the Dragonfly Foundation;
- Two unique elementary classroom projects;
- A special visit from local business leaders from the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance;
- Some highlights from the 100th day of kindergarten to kick off Lakota's kindergarten registration season.

[Click here to watch February's edition](#) and stay tuned for more updates as the year continues.

school volunteer award winners will be honored at a district-wide ceremony.

Email completed district nomination forms to Krysta Weizman at [kweizman@gmail.com](mailto:kweizman@gmail.com) by March 21.

## Now Hiring Bus Drivers

Lakota's contracted provider of bus transportation, Petermann, is seeking people who enjoy a challenge and may be interested in starting a new career as a bus driver for Lakota Schools. No previous experience is required and Petermann will provide all the necessary training for certification. New drivers will be compensated during their training period as well. Call today for more details and to get a jump on the summer applicants: (513) 755-5821.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Event Spotlights

- Friday, March 9  
[Lakota Pi Day Hosted by LEADS](#)  
at Lakota West High School  
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 12 - April 6  
[Kindergarten Registration Begins](#)
- Monday, March 12  
[Board of Education Meeting](#)  
at Lakota Central Office  
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 12  
[Advanced Classes Beginning in 6th Grade \(info night for 5th grade parents at all Lakota elementary schools\)](#)  
at Independence Elementary  
7 p.m.

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

### District-Sponsored:

[Barb Bossu Volunteer Spirit Award Nomination Form for the Lakota District \(Due March 21\)](#)

[Lakota Pi Day: March 9 \(Grades K-8\)](#)

[Parent Engagement Session: Encouraging Independent Learners \(March 15\)](#)

- Tuesday, March 13  
[State of the Schools](#)  
at Lakota West High School  
7 - 8:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 14  
[Coffee Chat with the Superintendent](#)  
Coffee Beans & Brew  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 15  
[Parent Engagement Session: Teaching Students to Become Independent Learners](#)  
at Lakota Central Office  
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 19  
[Community Conversation with Home-Schooling Parents](#)  
at Lakota Central Office  
6:30 - 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 20  
[Storytime & Supper with the Superintendent](#)  
at O'Charleys (Tylersville Road)  
6:30 - 8 p.m.
- Thursday, March 22  
[Lakota Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony](#)  
at Wetherington Golf & Country Club  
5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 26  
[Spring Break Begins: No School](#)
- Tuesday, April 3  
[School Resumes](#)

## Community-Sponsored Flyers:

[Gold Medal Archery Spring Break and Summer Camps \(Ages 9-15\)](#)

[Gold Medal Spring Archery Classes: Begin April 2 \(Ages 5 & up\)](#)

[SPARK Olympics Team Registration: April 7 \(Grades 7-12\)](#)

[Liberty Township/ Cincinnati Children's Easter Egg Hunt: March 31 \(Ages 1-8\)](#)

[Ages & Stages Parenting Event Series at Cincinnati Children's Liberty Campus: Nutrition, Health and Fitness for Your Family \(March 17\)](#)

[Annie & Into the Woods Auditions: March 10 \(Ages 5-18\)](#)

[ArtTwisted Science Girl Scout Day Camp: June 18-22 \(Grades 1-12\)](#)

[Butler County MetroParks Camp Flyer](#)

[LSO MiniKickers Soccer Program \(Ages 2-4\)](#)

[LSO Spring BlastBall Registration \(Age 3\)](#)

[Community Force March 2018 Volunteer Ideas](#)

**All Current  
E-Flyers**



[See Full  
Calendar](#)



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