

## A Look Around Lakota - E-News Edition

February 23, 2018





**Safety is Lakota's Number One Priority**

The number one priority at Lakota Local Schools is the safety and security of our students, staff and visitors. Many of the ways we work to provide a safe learning environment for our students are visible as you walk through our schools, while others take place behind the scenes.

Visitors to our buildings must identify themselves and the reason for their visits before being admitted through our updated safe and secure entrances. Once in the office, visitors must sign in and obtain a visitor's badge that they must wear throughout their stay.

Inside the schools, you will see School Resource Officers, uniformed police officers from the Butler County Sheriff's Office or West Chester Police Department. The number of SROs has increased from three to 10 in the past years. Assigned to specific buildings, these SROs make their presence known to students, staff and visitors by being visible throughout the day. By being assigned to specific buildings, they are able to build relationships and trust with our students.

Preparing our staff and students for how to respond in an emergency is crucial and is a task that we take seriously at Lakota. Throughout the year, Ohio schools must meet the requirements set forth by the State. These include:

- Submitting an emergency management plan.
- Providing students with safety and violence prevention training. Lakota uses ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training for handling the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event. A tiered approach is used – the training for seniors is very different from first-graders.
- Monthly fire drills.
- Tornado drills during May, June and July.
- Three safety drills.

An example of a safety drill would be a K-9 search of lockers and hallway areas. This type of random search would take place during class hours, while the school would be under an internal lockdown to prohibit students from leaving their classrooms.

Other initiatives include the text-a-tip program created through Lakota's District Parent Council in consultation with our Butler County SROs, safe driving classes, self-defense classes, suicide/self-harm procedures and mental health support and services. Additionally, we have increased our collaboration with local first responders through our District Safety Team.

Lakota's District Safety Team meets on a regular basis to discuss security protocols. Members of this team include central office personnel, building administration, all Lakota SROs, a member of the school board, and other local law enforcement supervisors. Over the past months, district administrators have been working on new safety protocols which will be announced in the coming weeks.

[Click here to read a memo](#) from Superintendent Matthew Miller about safety and security at Lakota.





## Lakota Celebrates Digital Learning Day

Lakota Schools recently celebrated Digital Learning Day, with the help of Lakota's Digital Learning Team, otherwise known as Team Inspire. The team kicked off the event by hosting a Lakota Ed Chat on Twitter on the eve of Digital Learning Day. The team posted questions that revolved around the impact digital technology has made on Lakota classrooms.

Digital Learning Day is a nationwide celebration that revolves around sharing ideas for how to apply technology to student learning. Lakota teachers across all grade levels and disciplines are designing, teaching and sharing lessons that use technology to enhance student learning.

The Digital Learning Team wants to emphasize that digital technology does not just happen one day a year, but it is a daily occurrence around Lakota. It can be in the form of students collaborating on assignments with their teachers and peers through technology, showcasing student-created projects through technology, learning how to properly use newer technology, creating opportunities for younger classes to work with older classes through video conferencing and many more engaging lessons designed by Lakota teachers.

Every 15 minutes throughout the day, Team Inspire would tweet a shout-out that was dedicated to something innovative happening in Lakota Classrooms using digital learning tools and strategies. "Digital Learning Day provides an opportunity for our entire district to recognize and celebrate our digital learning accomplishments, showcase the great work our teachers and students are doing with technology on a daily basis, and learn from other districts across the nation," said Krista Heidenreich, Lakota's Director of Digital Learning.

The many activities taking place in the schools emphasize such components. For example, eighth grade students in Tonya Weber's classroom at Hopewell Junior are currently participating in digital social issue book clubs. According to Weber, they are able to collaborate on this project through the digital portfolio, Seesaw. "Weekly, students will 'blog' about their book using a prompt and also comment on other students' blogs. Students are also meeting face to face during class time with those students who are reading books on the same social issue. This is my first time trying out digital book clubs and I'm loving it so far," said Weber.

The use of digital technology is being utilized in all grade levels throughout the Lakota school district. Teachers in early childhood schools are seeing the firsthand effects that digital learning has on their classrooms, including Wyandot teacher, Kim Reining. She says her students have been able to grow through the use of photos and videos in her classroom. Reining adds, "Students get excited to share their work and this is a great way to bring their families in on this excitement."

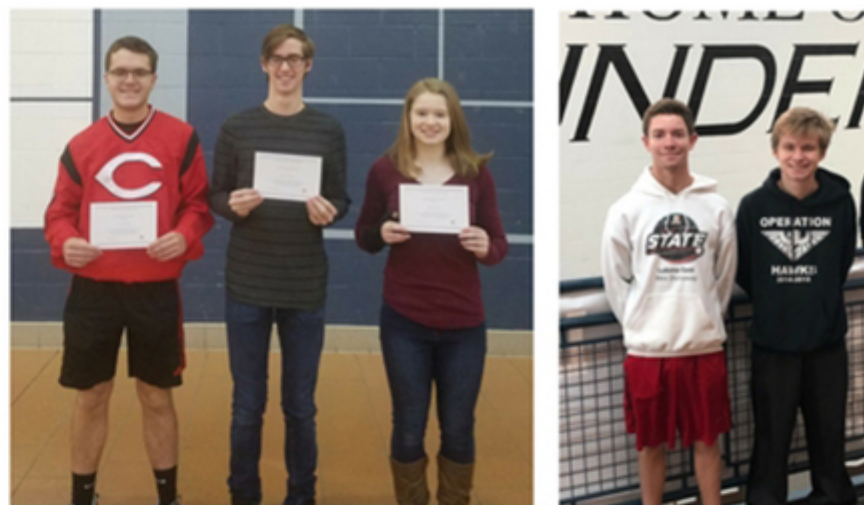
Digital technology is also being incorporated at the high school level in Lakota. East Spanish teacher Tamera Terndrup is taking a new approach to a classic project. "This year, our Spanish I students are creating a multimedia presentation about their families. In the past they would all stand before the class and recite their speeches. However, this year we are taking the nerves out of the presentation, and enabling students to record their speech as many times as necessary to feel proud and confident. Instead of turning in posters with their family tree on them, they are making these online and including them in their presentations," Terndrup said.

Lakota's Chief Technology Officer, Todd Wesley, is excited to see teachers embrace technology as a learning tool. "While technology continues to increase in classrooms across the country, it has been our teacher's efforts with the Digital Learning Team that continue to positively impact Lakota's student learning."

*Pictured above: Here's what Digital Learning Day looked like for Independence Elementary students in Melissa Riehle's second grade math class.*

## SHOUT-OUTS





National Merit Finalists



State-bound Swim Team



Auditor of State Award



## Swimmers Head to State Competition

Congratulations to our Lakota East and West swimmers who are competing in the state competition this weekend! They surpassed the competition at the sectional and district meets to earn the trip to Canton. The state qualifiers are:

### Lakota East:

**Jacob McDonald** (200, 500 Free)

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

**Keith Enrico, Alex Devine, Alec Gayer, Jacob McDonald, alt Joey Kelley** (Boys 200 Free Relay)

### Lakota West:

**Bridget Cramer** (100 Fly)

**Grace Luebbe** (200 Free, 500 Free)

**McKenzie Rice** (500 Free)

**McKenzie Rice, Grace Luebbe, Bridget Cramer, Molly Fisher Alt Maddie Roberts** (Girls 200 Free Relay)

**Michael Lorenz** (100 Back)

**Griffin Manning** (200 IM 100 Breast)

**Michael Lorenz, Griffin Manning, Connor Davis, Justin Hailey** (Boys 200 Medley Relay)

**Justin Hailey, Zach Saurine, Griffin Manning, Kaleb Sackenheim** (Boys 200 Free Relay)

## LEA & LSSA Awards Scholarships



Lakota School Support Association (LSSA) is happy to announce the 2018 LSSA Scholarship winners, Thomas Batt – Archbishop Moeller High School, **Hallie Crawford** – Lakota East High School, Nicholas Durstock – St. Xavier High School, **Mitchell James** – Lakota West High School, **Kaden Raiford** – Lakota East High School, and **Mason Ribar** – Lakota East High School.

This year LSSA was able to give six winners a \$400 scholarship. This is the second year LSSA has given the opportunity for a member's graduating senior child or grandchild to win a scholarship. LSSA Scholarship Committee members judged the applicants blindly based on activities, memberships, essay and GPA.

The Lakota Education Association (LEA) also recently announced its 2018 scholarship winners, recognizing the four recipients at the Feb. 9 Lakota East versus Lakota West men's varsity basketball game.

Such gifts are made possible by the generosity of Lakota teachers. The union's scholarship committee awards a total of four \$1,000 scholarships in two categories: the LEA Senior Scholarship is given to a senior who has indicated his or her interest in pursuing a degree in education, while the LEA Member Scholarship is awarded to students whose parents or grandparents are educators at Lakota.

Congratulations to future educators and Senior Scholarship winners **Hallie Crawford** and **Emma Cunningham**. The LEA Member Scholarship winners are **Holly Thompson** and **Ashley Willicut**.

## **Six Lakota Students Named National Merit Finalists**

Lakota Schools is proud of its six National Merit Finalists. **Megan Merk**, **Jacob Moore** and **Steven Sweeney** from Lakota West join **Ryan Ackerman**, **Alex Dunaway** and **Weston Lindner** from Lakota East in this great accomplishment. Only one percent of the students who took the PSAT as juniors are named finalists. Great job!

## **Dustin Horter Named Gatorade Runner of the Year**

Lakota East senior **Dustin Horter** has been named the 2017-18 Gatorade Ohio Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year for the second year in a row. Dustin has had a phenomenal year. This honor comes on the heels of being chosen to be a member of Team USA at the 2018 Simply Health Great Edinburgh XCountry Challenge. Congratulations, Dustin!

## **Lakota Students Headed to Regional Spelling Bee**

Five Lakota students have claimed spots in the WCPO 9 On Your Side Regional Spelling Bee that will be held on March 17 at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy. Good luck to the spellers as they prepare for the bee!

**Ritvik Irigireddy** (Cherokee Elementary)

**Evin Lodder** (Heritage Elementary)

**Audrey Charles** (Hopewell Elementary)

**Kai Compton** (Independence Elementary)

**Audrey Shooner** (Woodland Elementary)

## **Lakota Earns Auditor of State Award with Distinction**

The Auditor of State's Office has presented Lakota Local Schools with the "Auditor of State Award with Distinction." This is the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the district has earned this prestigious award.

“Lakota Local Schools is committed to strong fiscal management and we’ve made significant changes to the way we operate our schools,” said Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer Jenni Logan. “We maintain a lean operation and have held the line on expenses to ensure the most efficient budget possible while also expanding services for students. This creates a tremendous value for both families and residents.” [Read more...](#)

*Pictured above, Lakota Treasurer Jenni Logan celebrates the award with her entire team.*

## SCHOOL SPOTLIGHTS



**SPRING  
INTERNS  
PARTNER**



*This spring, Lakota juniors and seniors will have more internship opportunities than ever before. Lakota has partnered with area businesses to create unique learning experiences that also offer elective high school credit. In addition, the Lakota district has created internships in the areas of public finance, curriculum & instruction and marketing & communications.*



## **Lakota Welcomes AC Hotel, Planes as Newest Internship Partners**

Lakota Local Schools is proud to welcome Marriott's AC Hotel at Liberty Center and Planes Moving & Storage to its growing portfolio of high school internship programs. The new partners are part of the district's spring line-up of student opportunities.

Lakota East and West students can choose from 11 different experiences being offered this spring. For the first time, Lakota will also join the mix and host its own internship experiences in the areas of public finance, curriculum and instruction, and marketing and communications.

"The addition of two prominent local business partners and Lakota's leap into the program as an actual host is an exciting next step in continuing to grow this option for our students," said Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller. "The more we can diversify the industries and job experiences our students can explore, the more clarity they can have about their post-graduation plans."

Following the district's application and interview process for internship placement, each company will accept up to five students to participate in four rotations, each a week long throughout April. Both internships are paid and participating students will also earn one academic credit. [Read more...](#)



[Click here](#) to watch a video featuring Creekside kindergartner Treyden Barth.

## Creekside Kindergartner Knows His U.S. Presidents

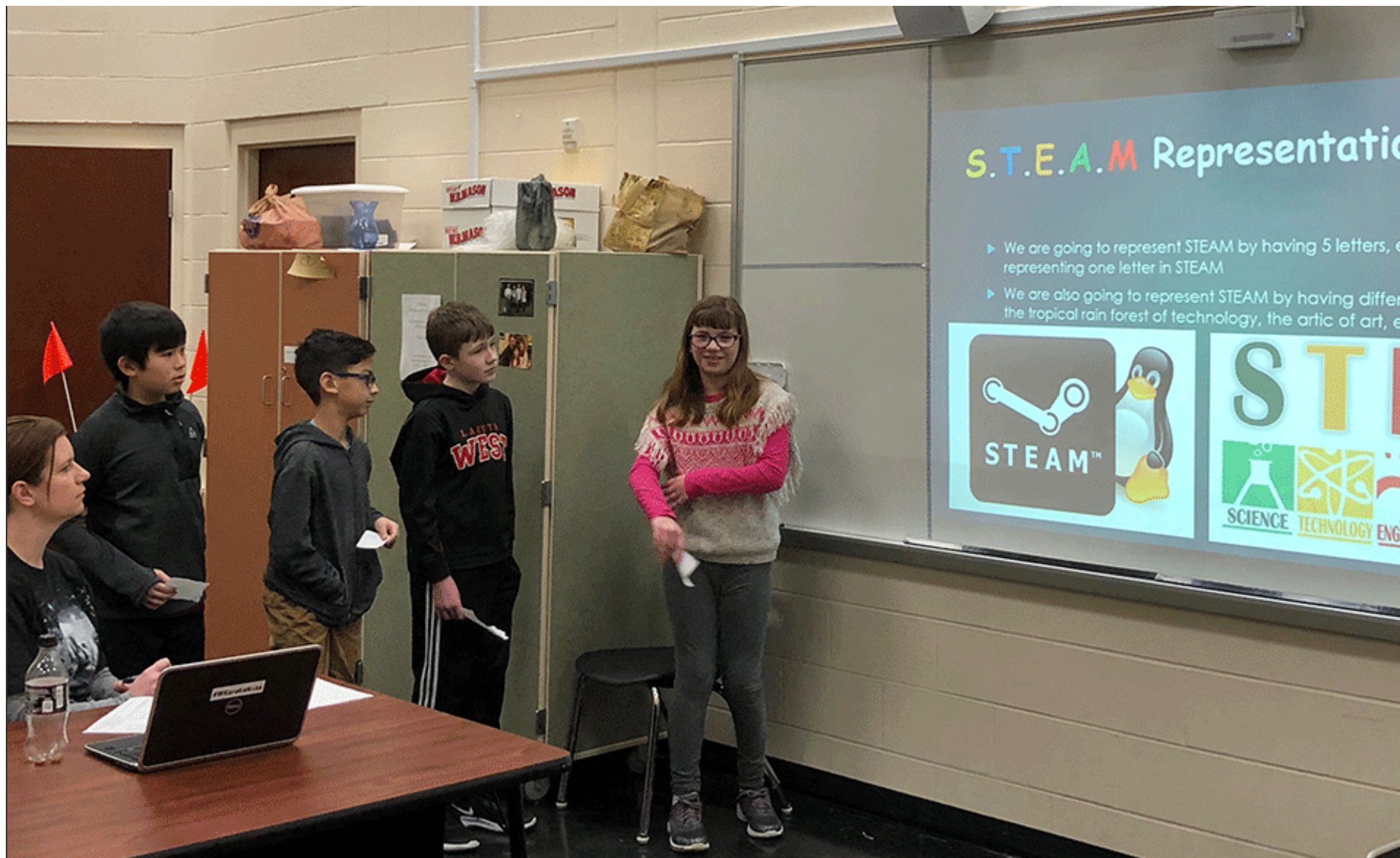
At just five years old, Creekside Early Childhood School kindergartner **Treyden Barth** can list the U.S. presidents, in order, as if he's reciting his ABCs.

Give him a number and he can tell you the corresponding president and a slew of other facts like his birthday, details of his death, his vice president and even his claim to fame. Supporting biographical information about his all-time favorite president, John F. Kennedy, are particularly detailed and extensive.

He can even recite famous (and not so famous) speeches like the “Gettysburg Address”, the “Emancipation Proclamation” and JFK’s “We Choose to Go to the Moon.”

Needless to say, President’s Day is a special day for this young presidential enthusiast.[Click here to view a special video celebrating Treyden’s passion and prowess for U.S. presidents.](#)





Students at Endeavor Elementary are helping to design their STEAM lab, slated to open this fall.

## Endeavor Students Designing STEAM<sup>2</sup> Lab to Open in Fall

Fifth grade students at Endeavor Elementary School participated in a Project-Based Learning exercise that not only has a real life solution, but that they will also get to experience first-hand: They designed their school's new STEAM<sup>2</sup> lab. STEAM<sup>2</sup> stands for science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics and medical. The labs in Lakota's elementary and early childhood schools give students the opportunity to explore these subject areas through discovery and creativity.

Working in small groups, the students planned all aspects of their future lab. From recommending furniture, creating a mood board, designing a feature wall and choosing technology, the students learned how much work was involved in creating a new learning space. Part of the research process involved field trips to visit STEAM labs at different schools, as well as traveling to furniture stores to see different options. In addition, the students had to take into consideration their budget. "Most groups were thinking about buying 3-D pens and 3-D printers, but then they thought (about other items they needed to buy) and that they may not have enough money left over," noted fifth-grader **Andrew Moody**.

Teamwork played an important role when developing their ideas. **Eliza McCarthy** explained that after finding furniture they liked collaboration was key. "We bounced ideas off of each other to see what would go together and what would look good."

After agreeing on a plan, each group presented their ideas to a group of teachers and administrators using a Powerpoint presentation and mood board. **MacKenzie Nitz** was happy that different aspects from each group were chosen to incorporate into the new lab, which will be built over the summer. "All of the groups worked together and we didn't pick one certain group to win...we put them all together and now it's going to be our STEAM lab."

Principal Andrea Blevins began the conversation with her STEAM TEAM as to what their future lab would look like. One member of the team wondered what the students would design and the project grew from there. Blevins is incredibly proud of her students. "I was beyond impressed with the effort, creativity, and skill that went into the STEAM<sup>2</sup> Lab designs. The students blew our entire team away with their ability to organize their concepts around a theme, design an interactive and flexible space for a variety of learners, and present so eloquently."







## **Ridge Junior's Writing Club Has a New Name and a New Focus**

Fifteen aspiring writers at Ridge Junior have joined together this year to form a group called the "Super Scribes."

In the past, the writing club was part of the official "Power of the Pen" organization that focused on writing competitions. Seventh grade teacher and adviser Katie Bauer said that the change was made to broaden the possibilities for students to use their creative writing skills. "Students like that the club allows them to write in ways that are not always possible in their English and language arts classes. Super Scribes is important because it brings writers together, allowing them to build on each other's abilities in creative writing."

During the first meeting, students had a brainstorming session to come up with ideas that they wanted to focus on. The group is working on a chapter book project where students can work individually or with a partner. The Super Scribes are also finishing up a writing competition for all Ridge students to help inspire other students to write or even join the club.

Throughout the school year, the Super Scribes hope to explore different ways of writing such as poems, plays and monologues. One of the final projects will be publishing a school newspaper highlighting club successes, athletic successes, and the eighth grade trip to Washington D.C.

"The students are really enjoying their club time exploring these opportunities," said Bauer. "They are really growing as writers."







*Independence third-graders Pari Patel (left) and Kelsey Hogan (front right), along with fifth-grader Cameron Preston (back right) collaborate on a geometry exercise during Math Problem-Solving Day.*

## **Independence Problem-Solving Day Teaches Perseverance**

Twice in one day, for about an hour at a time, the scene in every classroom at Independence Elementary last Thursday looked strikingly similar. It was an activity inspired by the fact that problem-solving is a skill that spans all grade levels.

“One of the most critical things our students can learn is how to persevere and dig deep in the face of a challenge,” said Independence teacher Laura Brown. “This was one way to spark in them a desire to problem-solve.”

Deemed “Math Problem-Solving Day,” students visited different classrooms and even different hallways to collaborate with classmates as many as four grade levels above or below them. It was a step toward not only problem-solving through mathematical reasoning, but also strengthening their school community, said Brown and Annette Long, who spearheaded the activity with the help of their math team.

Each session challenged students to work in small groups to tackle a particular geometry problem. Geometry presented an entry point through which any age student, regardless of their skill level, could relate and contribute. It’s just another example of how teachers are providing differentiated instruction.

Long noted one fifth-grader who opted to use a protractor during one exercise. His younger partner didn’t know what a protractor was. “His schema will be that much bigger when it comes time to introduce him to that tool one day,” she said.

“Math was the vehicle we opted to use, but the same impact could be made through any subject area,” Long said. “The most important thing is that they’re learning the value that communication, leadership and perseverance bring to a difficult situation.”



## FEATURED PHOTOS



*In an epic battle of students versus School Resource Officers, five of West Chester's finest recently faced off against a team of Thunderbirds from Hopewell Junior School. The young Lakota students dipped, ducked and dived their way to victory over the West Chester Police Department. It was the third annual dodgeball tournament contest between the students and the officers in what has become a kind of informal tradition. Public Affairs Officer Michelle Berling, who has played in the game three years straight, says the friendly competition is a fun, light-hearted way to help build trust and foster positive relationships between children, their families and the police who serve the community.*





*Kindness Week was celebrated across the district last week. At Liberty Early Childhood School special guest readers visited classrooms (Lakota's Director of Finance Tim Penton is shown here).*





On Thursday, Lakota West students wore the school colors of Stoneman Douglas in support of the students in Parkland, Florida. They also plan to send 1,000 handwritten notes and a banner signed by West students as statements of solidarity.

## NEW BUSINESS

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

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

In less than two weeks, Lakota East and West's hallways will be lined with nearly 100 organizations offering summer youth activities.

It's all part of Lakota's sixth annual Summer Fun Fair events taking place on Monday, March 5 at Lakota East High School and Wednesday, March 7 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 graciously donated raffle items that will be given away at each of the two open house events. The raffle is free, and over \$5,000 in prizes will be given away each evening, including free birthday parties, gift baskets, camp registrations, gift certificates and memberships. [Click here for a complete listing of raffle prizes.](#)

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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.

## ON THE RADAR

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

#### **#WEloveLakota Photo Contest Continues through Feb. 28**

In celebration of Valentine's Day this month, we're asking you to tell us what makes you love Lakota – with a photo! Is it a specific teacher, your principal, a favorite class, your entire school, your high school sweetheart, an extra-curricular program or maybe even the cafeteria's chicken nuggets?

Participate all month long on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram by tagging Lakota's account and #WEloveLakota. At the end of the month, the top photo on each site with the most "likes" will be declared our "most loved" Lakota people, places or programs.

In return, Lakota's Media & Community Relations department will deliver a special valentine surprise to those three most loved people, places or programs on your behalf. Others around Lakota will learn more about the top winners through a story about them to be featured on Lakota's website, on Lakota's social media accounts and in the district e-newsletter, "This Week at Lakota."

Search #WEareLakota from your social media account of choice to view and vote on your favorite posts.

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#### **Next Facebook Live Parent Engagement Session is March 5**



Everyone is encouraged to take a moment to consider nominating a volunteer who is making positive things happen in the district. It is your opportunity to demonstrate your appreciation for the volunteers that truly make Lakota a special place to educate children.

Barb Bossu was an enthusiastic parent volunteer and the Union Elementary PTA president at the time of her death. The Volunteer Spirit Award was established in 1990 to commemorate her very special dedication to public education by honoring a volunteer each year from every school as well as a district volunteer in the Lakota district. The recipient should represent a positive spirit of dedication toward the betterment of our children..

[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 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.

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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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A new learning series open to all Lakota parents makes starting to engage in your child's education as easy as logging into Facebook.

One night a month, a group of Lakota teachers and staff are available to provide parents with tips and strategies in a live conversation format on Facebook. Sessions will cover a range of topics, including strategies for reading together, interacting with teachers and other school staff, creating a positive learning environment at home, and more. Mark your calendar for the next session:

**March 5 - 7 p.m.**

### **Creating a Home Learning Environment, Helping with Homework & More**

During the 30-minute session, the panel of local teaching experts will answer a series of questions before opening it up to questions from their live audience. The entire video will also be available for playback after the live session has concluded. Visit [Lakota's Facebook page](#) to tune in for any of the [upcoming sessions](#)..

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## **'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. Community members will also get a chance to hear from Lakota students and teachers.

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

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## **Preschool Registration Ends Feb. 28**

## 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 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.](#)

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

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## 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

Registration for Lakota's tuition-based preschool program runs through Feb. 28.

With the recently announced transition of two Lakota elementary schools to early childhood schools for the 2018-19 school year, preschool will be available at all of our early childhood buildings. Placement will be based on attendance zone, but parents may select up to three additional locations as preferences during the application process.

Parents can [visit the preschool enrollment webpage](#) for more detailed information and to download the application. Applications are also available at any of the four current early childhood schools. Please direct any questions to the preschool office at (513) 870-5378.

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## Lakota Pi Day is March 9

Lakota Pi Day 2018 is almost here!

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.

Want to see more? Check out our [Pi Day video](#).

[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?

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.

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### **C3 to Host "A Red Carpet Affair"**

The Caring Community Collaborative (C3) is hosting a screening of the classic movie "North by Northwest" on the big screen on March 1 at Liberty Center's CineBistro. The event, presented by the Liberty Center Foundation, includes a cocktail reception, a dinner and reserved seating in a private theater. For more information, visit [www.caringcommunitycollaborative.com](http://www.caringcommunitycollaborative.com).

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### **Lakota to Host Positive Behavior Parenting Event March 6**

Learn strategies to encourage positive behavior in your child at Lakota's upcoming Positive Behavior event on March 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Midpointe Library.

Presenters will be Lakota's Tina Pratt and Terri Doerr. Space is limited, so please [reserve your spot via Signup Genius](#). The program will focus on children in preschool through sixth grade.

[Click here](#) for a flyer with details.

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### **Upcoming Community Conversations**

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.

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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### **Kindergarten Info. Night Feb. 28, 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. Parents are invited to attend the final information night on Feb. 28 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Lakota West High School.

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

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### **Tickets on Sale for Mulan Jr.**

Plains Junior School will be presenting *Mulan Jr.* next month. Tickets are on sale now at [Ticketpeak.com/plainsmulan](http://Ticketpeak.com/plainsmulan).

Performance date and times include:

March 16 at 7:30 p.m.

March 17 at 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

March 18 at 3:00 & 7:30 p.m.

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### **Download Lakota's New Mobile App**



Our next Community Conversations include:

**Parents of Students Receiving Special Services**

March 8  
6:30 – 8 p.m.

**Home-Schooling Parents**

March 19  
6:30 – 8 p.m.

Please check our [Community Conversation webpage](#) for details on these upcoming conversations.

Lakota's new and improved mobile app is now live in Apple and Google Play stores.

Besides a refreshed design, the new app is packed with more resources all in one place, plus the ability to customize your calendar, news feed and push notifications, based on your personal school selections. Download the app to gain quick and easy access to:

- School directions, hours and contact information
- Events calendar and the option to sync with your personal calendar
- News headlines customized to your personal school selections
- Breakfast & lunch menus
- Portals like Home Access Center, EZ Pay, Canvas and School Messenger
- District and school push notifications

In addition to all the current notifications methods, important and time-sensitive district alerts, like weather delays and closures, will be pushed to app users as a push notification.

To download, search for “Lakota Schools” from your mobile device’s app store. You can also click here from your mobile device to download the app from the [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

[Click here to learn even more about Lakota’s mobile app features.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### *Event Spotlights*

- Friday, February 23  
[Shrek the Musical](#)

## 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

at Lakota West Theatre  
7:30 p.m.

- Saturday, February 24  
[Shrek the Musical](#)  
at Lakota West Theatre  
2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, February 25  
[Shrek the Musical](#)  
at Lakota West Theatre  
2 p.m.
- Monday, February 26  
[Board of Education Meeting](#)  
at Lakota Central Office  
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, February 26  
[LEADS Book Club](#)  
at Union Elementary Cafeteria  
6 - 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 28  
[Kindergarten Information Night for 2018-19](#)  
at Lakota West Theatre  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 5  
[Summer Fun Fair Open House](#)  
at Lakota East High School  
6 - 8 p.m.
- Monday, March 5  
[Facebook Live for Parents: Creating a Home Learning Environment & More](#)  
7 p.m.

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 Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner & Induction Ceremony Ticket Order Form \(March 22\)](#)

[Positive Behavior Parenting Event sponsored by Lakota Schools: March 6 \(Preschool - Grade 6\)](#)

[Kids Night Out Hosted by Lakota East's National Honor Society: March 3 \(Ages 12 & under\)](#)

#### **Community-Sponsored Flyers:**

[Camp Invention \(Early Discounts, Sibling Discounts\) : June 4-8 \(Grades K-6\)](#)

[Counselor in Training for Camp Invention: June 4-8 \(Grades 7-9\)](#)

[High School Leadership Intern for Camp Invention: June 4-8](#)

[Lakota Tomahawk Youth Cheer Registration \(Grades K-6\)](#)

[Lakota Tomahawk Youth Football Registration \(Grades K-6\)](#)

[Springhill Camps: July 16-20 \(Grades K-5\)](#)

[West Chester Outlaw Football Registration \(Grades K-6\)](#)

**All Current  
E-Flyers**

- Tuesday, March 6  
[Barbershop, Books & Boys](#)  
at X-Quisite Cutz  
6 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 6  
[Positive Behavior Parenting Event](#)  
at Midpointe Library  
6 - 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 7  
[Summer Fun Fair Open House](#)  
at Lakota West High School  
6 - 8 p.m.
- Thursday, March 8  
[Community Conversation with Parents of Students  
Receiving Special Services](#)  
at Lakota East HS Community Room  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 9  
[Pi Day Hosted by Lakota LEADS](#)  
at Lakota West High School  
6:30 - 9 p.m.

**See Full  
Calendar**





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