

April 13, 2018



**WE are Lakota**





**Junior Achievement's Job Exploration Day Reaches 1,000-Plus Eighth-Graders**

By the end of the school year, about 1,000 Lakota eighth-graders will have visited a local business for a taste of what their future career might entail. It's all part of Lakota's continuing partnership with Junior Achievement to bring students a "Job Exploration Day".

More than 500 students from Plains and Ridge junior schools participated in the job shadowing event at one of 20 partner businesses late last month. Students at Hopewell and Liberty junior schools will enjoy the same experience next month.

"My goal is always to reach as many students as possible with as rich a variety of business experiences as possible," said Carol Lucio, district manager of Junior Achievement OKI Partners, Inc. With that in mind, this year's planning involved blending both schools, giving students a larger variety of businesses from which they could choose.

The leading goal of the on-site visits, of course, is to encourage students to discover potential career paths. At Pioneer Cladding and Glazing Systems in Mason, for example, Plains Junior eighth-grader **Kara French** realized the range of positions that make a company go round.

"I learned about all the different types of engineers that it takes coming together to produce one product," Kara said. "It's not just the engineers who contribute to the final product either. Managers and other people make everything come together and it opened my eyes to the other roles involved."

A local coffee shop called Rooted Grounds showcased the art of running a small business and gave students hands-on experience when they challenged students to help come up with a Lakota blend of coffee. "I learned a lot today about what I can expect after I go off to college and maybe start my own business," said Plains student **Lena Albright**.

From manufacturing, technology and hospitality to retail, law enforcement and even entertainment, the range of experiences was vast. Junior Achievement encouraged partner businesses to keep their students active and engaged, challenging them to give them an idea of exactly what they do in a very short time.

At Liberty Center and Funny Bone, students took an active role in developing the plan for family-friendly events that they'll be invited to attend one day. Students at Baker Concrete started their day just like Baker's employees do - stretching - and Cincinnati State helped students understand the lesser-known side of their business - that is, how they operate like a business.

Students like Ridge Junior School's **Luke Meyer**, who visited Cisco Systems, were most struck by what they witnessed in the staff they met. "They're all really passionate about what they do and that makes me want to consider it as a career more."



# HOPE SQUAD

IS COMING TO  
**LAKOTA!**

*Inviting all high school  
families to learn more about  
this new teen suicide  
prevention program.*

**LEARN MORE**    **APRIL 16**   •   **6:30 - 8 PM**   •   **Lakota East Auditorium**

Lakota Local Schools, in partnership with Greater Cincinnati's Grant Us Hope, is proud to bring Hope Squad to students at both Lakota East and Lakota West high schools. Preparation for full implementation in the 2018-19 school year is beginning now with student, staff and parent informational meetings.

Lakota is one of over 20 schools in the Greater Cincinnati region to pilot the national school-based peer-to-peer suicide prevention program in southwestern Ohio. Hope Squad members are students nominated by their peers who are then trained to identify at-risk students, provide friendship and seek help from an adult.

"Hope Squad's mentality to put students at the center of the solution aligns perfectly with Lakota's student-centered approach to everything we do," said Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller. "Oftentimes, students confide in one another more than the adult figures in their lives, which makes a program such as Hope Squad all the more effective. Every layer we can add to our safety and security plans is another layer of protection for our students."

Every month, through the duration of the school year, Hope Squad provides program advisors with a detailed curriculum that guides education and training of their student representatives. The Utah-based program also builds in a data and evaluation plan that allows partner schools to monitor outcomes and adjust accordingly.

"Part of reducing the negative impact of mental health illnesses is improving mental health education and reducing the stigma associated with it," said Lakota East Principal Suzanna Davis.

"Emotional distress is a normal part of being a teenager," said Lakota West Principal Elgin Card. "Our goal is to make the process of seeking help normal, too - not to mention something they can access quickly and easily through the support of their peers."

In schools where Hope Squads have been formed, recent data analysis show that over 25 percent of all referrals to counselors have been from Hope Squad members. Of those referrals, 14 percent have been hospitalized for treatment.

Students have already begun nominating their peers to make up their school's Hope Squad. Dr. Greg Hudnall, a national champion for suicide prevention in schools and communities and Hope Squad founder, will facilitate the first staff and student meetings on April 16.

Another early step in forming a Hope Squad is to educate and engage parents in suicide prevention programming so that they, too, can support the culture being built at school. Lakota will host a parent informational meeting in partnership with Dr. Hudnall on April 16 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. in the auditorium at Lakota East High School.

## SHOUT-OUTS





Lakota East  
Students  
Win Top  
Journalism  
Awards



Above: Lakota West Spring Signing Ceremony  
Middle right: Petersen Named National Correspondent

## **Cherokee Fifth-Grader Youngest Artist Featured at Spring Origami Show**

Cherokee fifth-grader **Rory Hruschak** is the youngest artist featured in the 2018 Spring Origami Show. The 11-year-old is joined by other origami artists up to 70 years old. He made dozens of insects and bug-like creations for the exhibit, open now through May at Dick Waller's ArtPlace, located at 130 West Court Street in Cincinnati.

## **Three East Students Selected for Spirit of America Conference**

Three Lakota East juniors - **Alexis Burt**, **Iman Elayyadi** and **Alex Strack** - are among just 125 youth nationally selected to attend the Spirit of America Conference in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania this week. The conference is hosted by the Freedoms Foundation, a non-partisan group committed to educating others about American rights and responsibilities, good citizenship, and strong leadership. At the conference, students participate in workshops focusing on leadership, citizenship, character development and free enterprise. They will also tour historic sites in Philadelphia.

## **West Grad Gets a Ticket to Hollywood on American Idol**

When he was 15, West Chester native and Lakota West graduate **Eric Ellis** auditioned for American Idol in Pittsburgh, but didn't advance to Hollywood to continue on in the competition. Idol producers called and asked him to come audition in Nashville for this year's competition, and this time he got a golden ticket to Hollywood! The 23 year-old made it all the way through the group rounds in the reality singing competition. Ellis lives in Los Angeles, pursuing his dream of being a songwriter.

## **Spring Signing Ceremony for Lakota Student-Athletes**

The Lakota West Athletic Department hosted a National Letter of Intent Spring Signing Event on April 11 to honor student-athletes who have made a commitment to participate in a collegiate sport next school year. With the signings below, Lakota West now has a total of 31 students who will continue their athletic career in college. Lakota East will be holding their Spring Ceremony on May 2. Congratulations to all of our student-athletes!

**Griffin Manning** (swimming): University of Louisville

**Emma Cunningham** (track and cross country): Ball State University

**Noah Mang** (track and cross country): Notre Dame College

**Anna Erftenbeck** (sand volleyball): Texas A&M Corpus Christi

**Michael Medley** (baseball): Earlham College

**Craig Nixon** (baseball): Muskingum University

**Aiden Reverman** (baseball): Thomas Moore College

**Joey Bradberry** (wrestling): Otterbein University

**Dylan Wiesman** (lacrosse): Capital University

**Cameron Wehby** (lacrosse): Capital University

**Andrew Brownley** (baseball): Otterbein University

## Two East Spark Co-Chief Editors Win Big at OSMA

Two seniors from Lakota East brought home numerous journalism awards from the Ohio Scholastic Media Association's (OSMA) annual convention. **Julianne Ford** was named the 2018 Ohio Journalism Education Association Journalist of the Year. Her writing portfolio is now in the running for the national title. **Sidney Li** was named OSMA State Runner Up for the Journalist of the Year award. Both Julianne and Sidney, co-chief editors at East's news magazine, traveled to Kent State University for the convention.

## West Sophomore Represents West Chester at Journalism Conference



**Lauren Petersen**, a sophomore at Lakota West, will travel to Washington, D.C. to represent West Chester, OH as a national youth correspondent at the 2018 Washington Journalism and Media Conference. Lauren will participate in hands-on, experiential learning during the conference, which will also include speakers who are well-known leaders in the media community. The five day intensive study of journalism and media will take place at George Mason University.

## AROUND LAKOTA

# Planting Relationships:

*Celebrate Earth Day & Help Grow CommUNITY*



**Sunday, April 22, 2018**

**2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**The Square at Union Centre**

**#WEareLakota**

**#WEarePlantingRelationships**



**Plant the seeds & watch relationships grow at this FREE EVENT**

- Live music, family activities, face painting & games
- Complimentary light meal  
(provided by Lakota schools, through local business sponsorship)
- Community groups, local police and fire department and accommodations for special needs families

## **Earth Day Event Promises to Build CommUNITY**

Lakota families are invited to help build commUNITY on Earth Day 2018. Together with the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance, Lakota Local Schools will host a family friendly afternoon on Sunday, April 22 from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Square at Union Centre in West Chester.

The goal of the event is to grow relationships within the Lakota community. “Our children may be friends at school, but we don’t know each other as families,” said organizer Angie Brown. “There is unity in community. This is an opportunity to plant the seeds from which friendships, relationships and community can grow.”

Families are invited to enjoy live music, games, face painting and more. A light meal will be served, compliments of Lakota Schools and area businesses. Community groups, along with local police and fire departments will also be on hand. Accommodations for families with children who have special needs are also being made, including a “quiet zone” for children who may need a break from the crowds.

In addition to enjoying a variety of entertainment, attendees will be able to visit MidPointe Library’s Bicycle Book Mobile, an old-fashioned ice cream truck-turned-library, that will feature plants and seedlings for Earth Day. Children are also encouraged to visit the potting station to start their own plant from seeds.

Families are encouraged to search #PlantingRelationships on social media to join the conversation. “This is a great opportunity for our Lakota families to come together to meet new people, spend time together outside of school activities and continue building community,” Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller said.

Click [here](#) to view a flyer with more information about the event.





*Lakota's inaugural military commitment ceremony honored 33 seniors. The program concluded with VanGorden Elementary fifth graders singing "Proud to be an American."*

## **First Military Commitment Ceremony Recognizes Seniors**

Lakota Local Schools held its first annual military commitment ceremony on April 5. Thirty-three seniors from both Lakota East and West high schools, who have committed to entering either a military academy or branch of service after graduation, were recognized before a near capacity crowd at the Lakota East Freshman building.

Choirs from both high schools joined together to perform the National Anthem during the Presentation of Colors by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Color Guard, Post 7696 West Chester. Chuck Weber, President of the Butler County Veterans Service Commission and Mark Riesenber, Commander of American Legion Post 681 delivered messages of encouragement and praise to the seniors. “By taking this oath, these young adults are joining the brother and sisterhood of all the soldiers, sailors...airmen and marines that came before them,” Riesenber told the audience.

Weber welcomed the recruits to the United States military. “To you new soldiers here today...We commend you for your patriotism and your love of country and wish you godspeed as you embark on this grand journey to serve our great nation.”

“Schools often recognize students on athletic and academic signing days. It’s important to also recognize our seniors who are putting service before self by committing to the United States military,” said Superintendent Matthew Miller. “The large number of attendees at our first ceremony is a testament to the support these students have from our community.”

“We are proud and thankful to have you as part of our family as you assume your post on America’s wall of defense. You have our unwavering respect, support and thanks for choosing this profession,” Riesenber told the group. The program concluded with VanGorden Elementary School fifth-graders singing Lee Greenwood’s “Proud to be an American.”

[Look for the video of the complete Military Commitment Ceremony. on Lakota's YouTube channel soon.](#)





*Pictured from left to right: Heritage Elementary teachers Dave Sabourin, Nicole Walcott, Jenny Willicut, Kim McBee and Noelle Wilson earned spots in the school's "Layups for Lauren" challenge after their classes raised the most money. This is caption for a story header image.*

## **Heritage Hosts 'Layups for Lauren'**

For the second year in a row, Heritage Elementary hosted "Layups for Lauren," a school-wide challenge honoring the memory of Lauren Hill.



Under the Student Council's leadership, the school community raised more than \$1,100 for The Cure Starts Now, an organization for which Lauren advocated worldwide before losing her battle with a rare form of inoperable brain cancer. A week-long fundraiser culminated in five Heritage teachers earning a spot in the Layup Challenge.

On March 23, Heritage teachers Jennifer Willicut, Kim McBee, Noelle Wilson, David Sabourin and Nicole Walcott represented their classes. They took turns attempting to make a layup as their students cheered them on and in spite of different challenges, including shooting with their less dominant hand and being spun in circles before shooting. On one shot, they had the chance to get creative and show their own personal layup style. Willicut came out on top, earning her class a pizza party.

"It's really inspiring to see an entire school come together for a common cause," said school counselor Dawn Hill. "Last year, one of our Student Council members suggested Layups for Lauren as our project. It was a great success, and this year we exceeded our goal. We really care about giving back to our community and 'Layups for Lauren' became a wonderful tradition."



The  
**Gold Crown Award**  
is presented to  
**Spark**  
*edgeworkspartymonline.com*  
Columbus Scholastic Phys. Association  
For outstanding achievement in the writing, editing, design and  
production of a newspaper, student application through the  
competition, efforts of students, faculty and administrators  
which exemplifies the high standards for which the Association  
is known for strength and integrity.  
Award given by the Columbus Scholastic Phys. Association  
Faculty members

## Spark Wins National Gold Crown Award

Combining creative, modern coverage approaches with tried-and-true reporting and sourcing practices earned the Lakota East Spark staff a National Gold Crown Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

Four Spark editors attended the national convention at Columbia University in New York City in March to attend sessions and work with 3,000 scholastic journalists from across the country. The three day event culminated in accepting the prestigious honor at the convention awards ceremony.

The Spark earned the Gold Crown, the top CSPA award, in the High School Print Publication/hybrid category, which points not only to the print publication excellence, but also, recognizes a strong “electronic, online coverage plan.” Twenty-eight schools from across the country earned Gold Crown Hybrids in the newspaper category. Co-chief editor **Lexy Harrison** said changing the category was a challenge. “It was a risk moving to the hybrid category because we didn’t think our online presence was as strong as the print side,” said Harrison. “But we were happily mistaken.”

Advisor and Journalism teacher Dean Hume said the Gold Crown is the pinnacle. “The Gold Crown is the most difficult award to win because the evaluation is so scrutinized.” Publications are reviewed for reporting, editing, photography, coverage, design, editorial leadership and community impact (issue coverage) by a group of 20 media professionals.

This is the 11th consecutive print Gold Crown awarded to Spark and the first in the hybrid category. “This streak points to the level of consistent professionalism and over-the-top effort that the staffs at East have provided to the school community for years,” Hume said.

Co-chief editor **Sidney Li** reflected on the 24-7 work required. “All the late nights of designing spreads and coaching writers finally paid off when we heard our publication being called as a Gold Crown winner,” Li said. “Being there to physically accept the award is something that I will cherish forever.”





*Science Club members at the Career Readiness Academy are shown here transferring organic topsoil into the raised beds they created for their sustainable garden.*

## Career Readiness Academy Science Club Takes on Sustainable Garden Project

Career Readiness Academy (CRA) Science Club students are not just talking about topics like going green, eliminating waste, and reducing chemicals found in foods. They are working together to take on a major project that addresses all three topics - creating a sustainable garden using chemical-free, pesticide-free resources and materials.

“The mission of the club is to educate and inform others of eco-friendly ways to take care of not just our planet, but ourselves and each other,” said advisor and science teacher Lisa Kieseewetter. “We have an incredible group of students who are learning so many life skills by taking on such a project.”

CRA junior **Brooke Aragon** agrees. “Not only have I learned a lot about what a sustainable garden is and how to create one, but the project has required teamwork, communication, organization and planning skills.”

The club has set up raised garden beds outside the school, and transferred topsoil into the beds. They have started sewing plants indoors in small bio-degradable pots that will eventually be transplanted into the garden (depending on the changing Ohio weather!). The group will be using buckets to collect rain to water the plants.

Organic peat moss, organic top soil and a compost bin have been donated by area businesses like Home Depot and Meyer Landscaping. Eventually the compost will be used to keep the garden fertilized.

Sophomore **Amber Szpak**, president of the club, says the group is planting everything from carrots to herbs. “We have carefully planned out what we are planting. We are using companion plants (like tomatoes and basil) that help sustain and benefit each other. This will alleviate pests and help with a higher yield.”

What will the group do with their crops? They plan to put together thank you baskets for businesses that have helped them with the project, will donate items to food pantries, and then try some as well. Word has it that they will also set aside a carrot or two for their class rabbit, Poe.







## **Combining Technology and Project-Based Learning Across Grade Levels**

The commitment of a mother-son teaching duo to combine technology and project-based learning created positive learning experiences spanning multiple grade levels.

Based on the stages of child development, Lakota East psychology teacher **Jared Haynes** challenged his students to develop a how-to manual for parents. Students developed videos and websites to help guide parents through the stages of infancy to the teenage years. To put their theories behind moral reasoning development to the test, they also created a series of questions that they shared with students in **Jenny Haynes**'s technology classes at VanGorden Elementary.

Using FlipGrid, an app encouraging video sharing, students shared their own reactions to different scenarios put forth by their older classmates. One by one, they recorded videos to reflect on various scenarios that called into question their moral and ethical reasoning skills.

“Reviewing actual students’ responses gave students a test group for the theories they’d researched in class,” Jared said.

Likewise, Jenny appreciated the opportunity for her students to use technology in such a productive way. “I started to see how students make decisions about what’s right and wrong based on their life experiences,” she said. “It was neat for them to know that their responses were connecting them with others outside their school and aiding a bigger cause. Introducing technology into the classroom knocks down the classroom walls.”



*The popular 'Parade of Graduates' event is back this year; the community is invited to celebrate our seniors on May 3 at all Lakota elementary school buildings.*

## **May 3 'Parade of Graduates' a Community Affair**

As a way of recognizing the Class of 2018 as role models for their younger counterparts, Lakota is gearing up for another “Parade of Graduates.”

On Thursday, May 3, all 10 of Lakota’s elementary schools will welcome a group of this year’s graduates in fanfare fashion. Graduates will walk the halls dressed in their caps and gowns as students, staff, parents and community members line the halls to cheer them on. During the parade, seniors received congratulatory letters of advice and encouragement written by the elementary students.

Derived from Lakota’s Champions for Change program, the parade is designed to celebrate the achievements of our graduating students while also demonstrating to every elementary student that others who look like them or have the same goals as them have reached such a milestone.

Staff, parents and community members are invited to participate in the “Parade of Graduates.” Visit any Lakota elementary school on May 3 at 10 a.m. to participate.





## **K-9 Units Perform Drug Search as Part of Safety and Security Plans**

There are many different components included in the safety and security protocols at Lakota Schools. In addition to the safety drills practiced throughout the school year, periodically our partners at the Butler County Sheriff's Office bring in K-9 units to perform drug searches at the high schools and in the student parking lots.

Seven K-9 units searched Lakota East High school on April 11. Lakota West was searched earlier this school year. While the searches are conducted, the schools are placed on internal lockdowns, meaning students remain in their classes while the units search the locker bays and student parking lots. During this time, teachers continue with their lesson plans as usual. The lockdown is announced just prior to the start of the search.

"The safety of our students and staff is the number one priority at Lakota. Our district safety protocols have many layers," said Superintendent Matthew Miller. "Ensuring that our schools are drug-free is another component to keeping our kids safe."

No drugs were found during either high school search this year.

**FEATURED PHOTO**







*"I wish 'Man Camp' was every day." That's a comment from one of the Cherokee boys in grades 4-6 who take part in the school's 'Man Camp' held on Wednesdays before school starts. Male teachers and community members serve as camp leaders, sharing lessons on positive leadership qualities. Recently the campers participated in Minute to Win It activities, cheering others on toward success. The campers learned the value of being selfless and putting others first with pure motives. The popular spring camp is a huge success, adding new campers each week.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

#### **May 26: Lakota Spirit Night at FC Cincinnati Game**

Lakota is excited to announce a Lakota Spirit Night with FC Cincinnati!

Lakota families and staff are invited to take advantage of special ticket pricing for the May 26 game. FC Cincinnati will take on Louisville at 7:30 p.m. at the University of Cincinnati's Nippert Stadium. Special activities are being planned to celebrate Lakota's presence at the game, so come and show your Lakota spirit. Visit [www.fccincinnati.com/group-portal](http://www.fccincinnati.com/group-portal) and enter promo code LAKOTA18 to call 513-977-KICK to claim your tickets.

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#### **'LakotaBranchesOut' Photo Contest Celebrates National Volunteer Month**

In recognition of National Volunteer Month, help us share the many ways Lakota students and staff branch out to volunteer their time and talents in our community. Get creative and share a photo that demonstrates the individual or organization you like to support.

Participate all month long on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram by tagging Lakota's account and #LakotaBranchesOut. At the end of the month, the post 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.

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## ON THE RADAR

### *Announcements & Opportunities*

#### **Lakota Learning Blog Tackles Praise, Testing & Technology**

Lakota educators are the voice behind the all-new "Inside Lakota Learning" blog. Contributing authors are bridging the gap between how learning strategies in the classroom can be reinforced at home.

In the latest post, Teaching & Learning Consultant **Danielle Creamer** explains the psychology behind praise versus productive feedback. Reflecting on a personal experience with her own child, she gives tips for encouraging a growth mindset at home.

Before that, K-6 Director of Curriculum & Instruction **Erin Owens** provides tips and strategies for how to master state testing madness. She discusses how testing goes beyond the actual content being tested by building some very powerful life skills like grit, setting goals and managing stress and anxiety. Read her post to learn more about reinforcing these types of lessons and helping your child feel more confident this testing season.

In another post, Instructional Coach **Tiffany Rexhausen** discusses how to "Unplug by Plugging In." Tapping into her own personal experiences, Rexhausen explains that there are actually ways to positively engage with your child and his or her interests through technology.

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

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## **K-12 Registration for 2018-19 Now Open**

Registration for the 2018-19 school year for grades K-12 is now open. Registration packets are available at the Enrollment Center (8735 Cincinnati-Dayton Road) or [click here to view and download them via the Lakota website](#).

Please visit the Enrollment Center with the completed packets and [other required documentation](#) to finish the enrollment process. Students who wish to attend kindergarten must be five years old on or before Aug. 1.

The Enrollment Center is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Direct any questions to [enroll@lakotaonline.com](mailto:enroll@lakotaonline.com).

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## **'Buddy Bench' Dedication on April 20 Honors Life of Lauren Hede**

Lakota West student Lauren Hede passed away on July 11, 2014 at age 16 after a year-long battle with a brain tumor.

To help honor Lauren's love of life, to remember her years at Lakota Local Schools, and to pay forward a life so bright, Lauren's family invites the community to attend a "Buddy Bench" dedication ceremony at Endeavor Elementary where she attended.

The ceremony will be held on April 20 from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Endeavor Elementary (4400 Smith Road). Everyone is welcome to attend this celebration of Lauren's life.

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## **District Seeks Community Input on 2019-20 Academic Calendar**

The Lakota Calendar Committee is preparing a 2019-2020 district calendar recommendation for the Board of Education. But first, the group is soliciting community input. Lakota staff, students, parents and community members

## **Monthly 'Storytime & Supper with the Superintendent' Continues April 17**

As part of its ongoing efforts to build community support around early literacy, Lakota Superintendent Matthew Miller is hosting "Storytime & Supper with the Superintendent" on the third Tuesday of each month. The next one is scheduled for April 17.

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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## **May 8 Election Day: No School for Students, PD Day for Staff**

Lakota Local Schools will not be in session on Tuesday, May 8, primary election day. All staff members will still report for professional development activities, including time for collaboration with their peers.

The decision was made by district officials after careful consideration by the District Safety Team. "Nineteen of our schools are polling places," said Superintendent Matthew Miller. "The safety of our students is always our number one priority and with a high voter turnout expected, we have decided to close, just as we do during the general election in November.

Although students will not be in class on that day, all staff will report for a full day of professional development. In addition to collaboration time at the building level, the district will use this opportunity to provide extra safety and security training for staff, with the support of School Resource Officers.

are invited to review the current draft before any final recommendation is presented to the school board in May 2018.

The committee considers many different factors when drafting the district calendar, including everything from scheduled state assessments and other state mandates to observed holidays and staff training days. When comparing the 2018-2019 calendar to this proposed calendar, the committee does not note any major changes.

We value any input you have regarding possible changes to the calendar. [Click here to review the calendar and submit any feedback.](#) All input must be received by Monday, May 7. Feedback will be reviewed and adjustments made, as appropriate.

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### **April 25: Lakota LEADS Book Club for Grades 2-6**

Join Lakota LEADS for its April Book Club on April 25 at the Union Elementary Gym from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Rockin' Readers (grades 2-4) will discuss *The Disastrous Magical Wishes of Classroom 13* by Honest Lee & Matthew J Gilbert and design a wish box. A Novel Bunch (grades 4-6) will discuss *Wishmaker* by Tyler Whitesides and create their own dream catcher.

Both book selections contain a lot of wishes, a genie and an imaginative adventure. A parent or guardian must attend the event with their student. If you have any questions please contact [dmopoku78@gmail.com](mailto:dmopoku78@gmail.com). Sign up for this free event at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4ba8a629a46-lakota2>. For a flyer on the April Book Club, [click here](#).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### *Event Spotlights*

- Friday, April 13 & Saturday, April 14  
[Theatre Production: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee](#)

## **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



at Lakota East Theatre  
7:30 p.m.

- Monday, April 16  
[Hope Squad Parent Information Night](#)  
at Lakota East High School  
6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 17  
[Storytime & Supper with the Superintendent \(Tylersville Rd\)](#)  
6:30 p.m.
- Monday, April 23  
[Lakota Board of Education Meeting](#)  
at Plains Junior Media Center  
6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 1  
[Barber Shop, Books & Boys](#)  
at X-Quisite Cutz  
6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 2  
[Coffee Chat with the Superintendent](#)  
at Coffee Beans & Brew  
9:00 a.m.
- Thursday, May 3  
[Parade of Graduates](#)  
at Lakota Elementary Schools  
10:15 a.m.

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:**

[Lakota CommUnity Earth Day Celebration: April 22 \(All ages\)](#)

[Lakota West Bands Jazz 'n Cakes: April 21](#)

[Lakota LEADS April Book Club: April 25 \(Grades 2-6\)](#)

[Lakota West Boys Basketball Camp/League: June 18-21, June 25-28 \(Grades 2-9\)](#)

[Lakota West Boys Soccer Camp: June 5-8 \(Grades 2-9\)](#)

[Lakota West Girls Basketball Camp: June 12-15 \(Grades K-9\)](#)

[Lakota West Girls Soccer Camp: June 18-21 \(Grades 1-9\)](#)

[Lakota West Girls Tennis Camp: June 18-21, July 16-19 \(Grades 3-8\)](#)

[Lakota West Girls Volleyball Camp: June 4-7 \(Grades K-7\)](#)

[LEADS Parent Connect Speaker Series: Understanding & Supporting the Needs of Gifted Learners \(April 19\)](#)

[Lakota West Soccer Mattress Sale: May 12](#)

[Hopewell Community's Celebration of Nations: April 17](#)

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

["Who Can I Trust to Give Me the Real News?" presented by the Cincinnati Society of Professional Journalists at the VOA Museum: April 26](#)

[Community Volunteer Force Opportunities for April](#)

[Drama Camp at Christ the King Lutheran Church: July 22-29 \(All ages\)](#)

**See Full  
Calendar**

[Fitton Center Summer Camp Scholarship Application](#)

[Fitton Center Summer Camps and Classes \(All ages\)](#)

[Fitton Center Summer Class Scholarship Application](#)

[Host an International High School Student \(CIEE\)](#)

[Lakota Tomahawks Football and Cheer Registration: Grades K-6](#)

[Summer Theatre Camp at Cincinnati Christian Schools: May 31 - June 8  
\(Grades 4-9\)](#)

[Thrivepointe Counseling Groups for Anxiety and Depression: Begin April 11  
\(Teens\)](#)

[Vacation Bible Adventure at Bethany United Methodist Church: June 11-15  
\(Ages 4 through Grade 6\)](#)

[College S.A.F.E. Self-Defense Classes: April 9-12, 16-20 & June 25-29](#)

[Butterfly Walk & 5K for CancerFree KIDS: May 12](#)

[Community Human Values Fest: April 29](#)

[Karen Moeller Scholarship Fun Run/Walk: May 12](#)

[STEM Mania Summer Camps at Cincinnati Stem Lab \(Grades 1-8\)](#)

[Grace Chapel Archery Spring II Classes: Begin April 23 \(All ages\)](#)

[Upward Flag Football & Cheerleading Registration Begins May 14](#)

**All Current  
E-Flyers**



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