

WE are Lak~~ota~~ta



A Look Around Lakota

District E-Newsletter

September 14, 2021 Edition

FEATURED In This Issue



Gateway: Deadline Extended to Sept. 17

The deadline for visiting the new [Back-to-School Gateway](#) has been extended to Friday, Sept. 17 at 5 p.m.

Parents and guardians are asked to verify or correct information the district currently has on

School Finances 101



#WEareLak~~ota~~ta

School Finances 101

General fund. Permanent improvement fund. Have you ever wondered what exactly these terms mean?

School finance can be challenging to understand so we wanted to help break it down. Join Lakota

NEWSLETTER CHANGES



A Look Around Lakota

District E-Newsletter

Coming Soon: District E-News Changes

We asked. You answered. We listened. In response to your recent feedback, the next edition of this district e-newsletter "A Look Around Lakota," will look different to better fit our readers' needs. It will also be

file for each child. This includes parent/guardian contact information for all school-to-home communications. The Gateway coincides with disabling the ability to update information in School Messenger's parent portal.

[Full story](#)

second-grader Leo as he explains school financing in this short video.

[Watch video](#)

arriving in your inbox just once a month, every last Tuesday.

Among the changes will be a more prominent calendar of upcoming events and a substantially shorter length, allowing readers to click on stories that interest them.

Features

- [Cherokee Student Ambassadors Answer the Call](#)
- [Students Plan Activities in Support of Suicide Prevention Month](#)

New Business

- [Supply Chain Challenges Impact School Menus](#)
- [Caring for Grieving Children & Teens](#)

SHOUT-OUTS



Lakota East Spark

Top Publication

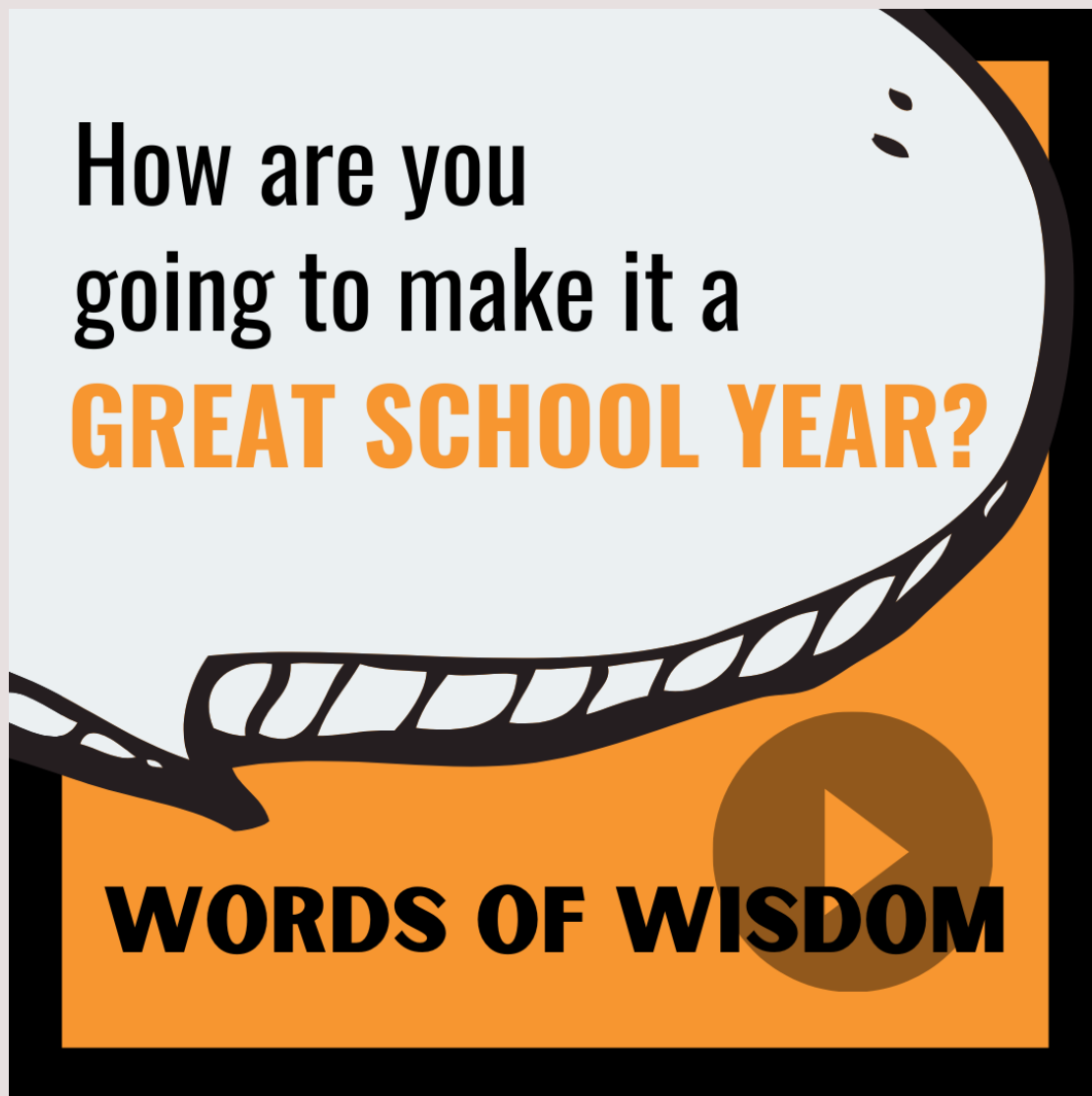
Lakota East Spark Earns 20th Consecutive National Top Publication Award

For the 20th consecutive year, the Lakota East Spark news magazine staff earned the national Quill and Scroll's George H. Gallup Overall Publication Award. Based on overall coverage, professional grade reporting, a strong editorial presence, cutting edge design and a self-sufficient business model, judges rated the East Spark as one of the best publications nationally.

"I'm always amazed at the tremendous depth of so many of your stories. That alone is enough to earn you the George H. Gallup Award," said one of the veteran Quill and Scroll judges. "[Spark] students do such a good job interviewing and they know how to deal with issues that are interesting and important."

Quill and Scroll is one of the oldest scholastic press associations in America. The overall publication judge reviewed three issues of the publication as well as a judging booklet in which Spark editors **Mia Hilkowitz, Marleigh Winterbottom, Riley Higgins, Ianni Acapulco, Olivia Rigney, Natalie Mazey, Megan Miranda, Zach Shultz** and **Abbey Bahan** explained policy practices and general tenants of the program.

AROUND LAKOTA



Words of Wisdom: Make It a Great School Year

How can you make it a great school year? That's what WE asked our students in this month's edition of "Words of Wisdom." What can we say...our students say it best!

[Watch Video](#)

Proof:



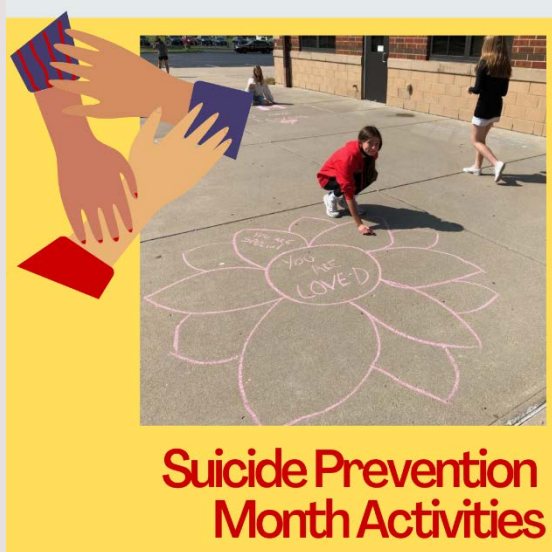
#WEareBetterTogether

Cherokee Student Ambassadors Answer the Call for Help

When **Todd Caulfield**, a sixth-grade teacher at Cherokee Elementary School, received an email from A Child's Hope International asking for donations to assist

victims of Hurricane Ida, he knew just who to turn to: the school's sixth-grade ambassadors.

[Read more](#)



Students Plan Activities in Support of Suicide Prevention Month

"You are loved." Positive chalk messages like this greeted students as they entered school last week. Students and staff throughout Lakota are taking part in activities all month long in support of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

It's a time to not only raise awareness of this often-taboo topic, but to spread hope and ensure that individuals and families have access to the resources they need to discuss suicide prevention and to seek help.

[Read more](#)

**FEATURED
PHOTOS**



Lakota Fanfares Back in Swing

Lakota's tradition of welcoming students to school in fanfare fashion on a designated day is back in full swing! Creekside ECS (pictured above) celebrated its students with bubbles on Sept. 3. The program, led by Lakota's Outreach Diversity & Inclusion (LODI) department, will come to every Lakota school this year.



Fun Night in the Hawks Nest

The Eastside celebrated Future Hawk Night on Sept. 3. Not only were Future Hawks treated to inflatables and other fun, but it was neon night, and the



Celebrating Future Firebird Night

Westside schools were out in full force for Future Firebird Night on Sept. 10!

football team came up with a huge win. A fireworks show topped off the perfect evening!

The PTSO put together a fun night with games, inflatables, face painting and more. Future Firebirds got to see the band and football team up close when they paraded with their school on the field before the game.

NEW BUSINESS



Supply Chain Challenges Impact School Menus

Following the unique challenges of preparing and serving food to our students last school year, Lakota's Child Nutrition Department is happy to return to its normal service and menus. At the same time, we and other school foodservice programs nationwide are facing unprecedented challenges with the supply chain and availability of some menu items. We are finding that this means occasionally changing our posted menus with little to no notice in some of our schools.

[Learn more](#)



Caring for Grieving Children & Teens

At Companions on a Journey (COJ) and Lakota Local Schools, we believe that no child or teen should grieve alone, which is why we partner together to offer critical grief support services to your children.

You can make a difference

This free educational night is open to anyone who supports a child or teen attending a school in the Lakota School District (parents, grandparents, relatives, guardians, school staff and other caring adults).

In this session, we will explore:

- Grief and Developmental Stages
- How to Discuss a Death with Children and Teens
- Identifying Traumatic Grief Reactions
- Helpful Coping Tools and Resources
- Creating a Grief-Sensitive Environment for Children/Teens
- Balancing Your Own Grief While Caring for Children/Teens

Registration is required: www.companionsonajourney.com

[Learn more](#)

ON THE RADAR

DPC Hosts 'Meet the Candidates' for School Board

Election season will soon be upon us and the Lakota District Parent Council (DPC) has partnered with the West Chester/Liberty Chamber Alliance and Miami University to host a forum to meet the candidates running for the Lakota Board of Education. This virtual event will take place via a Zoom webinar on Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

This will be the second time DPC has hosted the event. "This is an opportunity for Lakota community members, parents, students and staff to learn more about each candidate and why they are running for the Lakota Board of Education," said DPC President Lisa Phair. [Click here for more event details.](#)

Lakota LEADS Science & Engineering Fair Now Open to Grades 5-12

Registration is open for the 3rd Annual Lakota Science & Engineering Fair, hosted by Lakota LEADS! This event is open to all Lakota fifth- through twelfth-graders. Students can enter individual or team projects. The fair will be held at Hopewell Junior School on January 21, 2022. [Learn more on the Lakota LEADS website](#) and complete the [fair application](#) by the November 30 deadline. Email lakotasciencefair@gmail.com to sign up for the science fair newsletter.

Sept. 22: Cyber Academy Kick-off Event

The Lakota Cyber Academy is thrilled to kick-off another year of learning in the industry-driven program at both Lakota East and West. To launch this academic year, the Cyber program will host an

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Fanfare for Heritage ECS Students](#)

Sept. 17
8:45 a.m.
Heritage ECS

[Cyber Academy Kick-Off Event](#)

Sept. 22
6:30 p.m.
Lakota East

[Caring for Grieving Children & Teens](#)

Sept. 22
6:30 p.m.
Lakota West

[Fanfare for Hopewell ECS Students](#)

Sept. 24
8:45 a.m.
Hopewell ECS

[Board of Education Work Session](#)

Sept. 27
6:30 p.m.
Plains Junior/Zoom

[In the Loop with the Supe](#)

Oct. 6
8 a.m.
Facebook Live

[District Calendar](#)

evening event on Sept. 22 from 6 - 8:30 p.m. at Lakota East that includes a parent information session, mentor connecting sessions for Cyber 2 and 3 students, as well as an industry keynote presentation.

All current and potential future students and their families are welcome to attend.

[Click here for more information and registration](#) or contact Katie Bauer at Kathryn.bauer@lakotaonline.com.

Registration Ends Tomorrow: Destination Imagination Open to All Grade Levels

Does your student love crafting, inventing, building, storytelling and all things STEAM? Destination Imagination (DI) is designed to foster your student's creativity, problem-solving skills and teamwork through a project-based learning experience and competition.

Lakota is creating teams for this year's program now. Registration is open to all grade levels. [Click here to register your child for DI](#) by the Sept. 15 deadline. Learn more at DestinationImagination.org or by watching this ["Why Parents Choose DI" video](#). A [complete FAQ about DI](#) is also available. Contact LakotaDI@yahoo.com with questions.

WE are Lak@ta



Lakota Local Schools

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