

Community Link

The Newsletter of the School District of Lodi

December 2022

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Perspective

.....by **Vince Breunig**
District Administrator

Thankful

In my back to school year address to the entire staff in the District, I shared how thankful we were for the gifts the District has received from the community the past two years. The first was the gift of clarity the community gave the District through the strategic planning process; the second was the passage of the referendum. These dual gifts have allowed us to have a great start of the school year, ensuring we had the staff and resources in place to achieve the priorities set for us by the community. We do not take either of these gifts for granted and continue to appreciate the ongoing support that our community continues to show our students, our staff, and our District.

Communication

The District is using Balanced Scorecards to outline the high confidence strategies that are being used to meet the priorities set forth in the strategic plan. To ensure that this information is readily available and communicated accurately, community members can click on the *Strategic Plan page* on the *About Us link* on the top of the District web page at www.lodi.k12.wi.us. On this page, community members can review the strategic plan, the district balanced scorecard, and the building level balanced scorecards. In addition, each scorecard has an accompanying video which adds clarity by explaining each scorecard in more detail.

To improve communication around school events, each school has a calendar of events scrolling at the bottom of their web page. To subscribe to each school's events, click the icon to the right of the calendar at the bottom of each school's web page. An additional resource for connecting with the District can be found on the [Connect with Us](#) page on the *About Us link* on the top of the District web page.

The District's Board meetings are open to the public and live streamed on Youtube for interested families and community members. The Board also creates a document after each Board meeting that summarizes each Board agenda item. This summary is posted within a week of the Board of Education meeting and can be found (along with Board agendas and the Youtube link) on the *Board of Education page* on the *Our District link* at the top of the District's web page. Interested families and community members can also subscribe to this summary by clicking on the icon next to the summary on the webpage.

Thank you for taking time to read this edition of the Community Link. The information that you will read will continue to highlight the District's commitment to living the District's Mission which states: *In partnership with our community, nurturing every student's potential for growth and opportunities -socially, mentally, & academically - in a safe, respectful, and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers.*

Board of Education

Regular meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 5:30 pm closed session /6:30 pm regular session in the District unless posted otherwise.

- H. Adam Steinberg.....*President*
- Angela Lathrop*Vice-President*
- Barb Beyer *Treasurer*
- Terry Haag *Clerk*
- Heather Baron*Director*
- Kristi McMorris*Director*
- Scott Bilse *Director*

Board of Education members' names, contact information, committee assignments, meeting agendas and minutes are included on the School District of Lodi's website at www.lodi.k12.wi.us, Board of Education link. If you do not have access to the District website, contact Maureen Palmer at 592-1060 to request this information.



District Phone & Fax Numbers

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Primary School | 592-3855 |
| Primary School Fax | 592-1015 |
| Elementary School | 592-3842 |
| Elementary School Fax | 592-1025 |
| Middle School..... | 592-3854 |
| Middle School Fax..... | 592-1035 |
| High School | 592-3853 |
| High School Fax | 592-1045 |
| District Office | 592-3851 |
| District Fax | 592-3852 |



Winter Break Hours of Operation

All schools and school offices, including the district office, are closed for winter break beginning at the end of the school day on Friday, December 23rd through Monday, January 2nd.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, when students return to their classes and regular school and office hours resume.





Emergency School Closing Information 2022-2023



If school buildings need to be closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies parents will be notified via email, voice mail and /or text message from our Infinite Campus software.

The information will be posted on our district website, Facebook page and also be broadcasted on air and websites of:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| WTSO 1070 AM | WMAD 96.3 FM |
| WDLS 900 AM | WXXM 92.1 FM |
| WIBA 1310 AM/101.5 FM | WOLX 94.9 FM |
| WPDR-WDDC150 AM/100.1 FM | WMMM-WBZU 105.5 FM/105.1 FM |
| WZEE 104.1 FM | WISC-TV Channel 3 |
| WNWC 102.5 FM | WMTV Channel 15 |
| WNNO 106.9 FM | WKOW-TV Channel 27 |
| WBKY 95.9 FM | |

School Zone Reminder

The speed limit for vehicles traveling within a school zone is 15 miles per hour. The 15 mile per hour limit is defined by Wisconsin State Statute.



- 346.57(4)(a) Fifteen miles per hour when passing a schoolhouse at those times when children are going to or from school or are playing within the sidewalk area at or about the school.
- 346.57(4)(b) Fifteen miles per hour when passing an intersection or other location properly marked with a “school crossing” sign of a type approved by the department when any of the following conditions exists:
 1. Any child is present.
 2. A school crossing guard is within a crosswalk at the intersection or the other location or, if no crosswalk exists, is in the roadway at the intersection or the other location.
 3. A school crossing guard is placing in or removing from the roadway at or near the intersection or the other location a temporary sign or device that guides, warns, or regulates traffic.

The Lodi Police Department patrols and monitors the school zones around all our school buildings to ensure the safety of the students going to and from school. Fines for any moving violation that occur in a school zone are doubled. Please be cognizant of school zones and slow down and drive with extra caution when traveling through a school zone or crossing.

Interested in Becoming a Lodi School Board Member?

**Board of Education
Tuesday, April 4, 2023 Spring General Election**

Terms of office for the following board members for the School District of Lodi will expire in April 2023.

Listed in alphabetical order:

Barbara Beyer
H. Adam Steinberg

BALLOT ACCESS CHECKLIST FOR 2023 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

Each of the following forms must be completed and filed on time by candidates for School District office in order for the candidate's name to be placed on the ballot at the **February 21, 2023 Spring Primary** and the **April 4, 2023 Spring Election**.

The filing officer for school district offices is the School District Clerk. Candidates should contact their filing officer or designee for further information or to obtain any of the necessary forms.

All School District Candidates must:



Complete and submit a Campaign Registration Statement (Form CF-1) to the filing officer prior to raising or spending any funds, and no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023**, or the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot. If the form is faxed or emailed, the original document must follow postmarked no later than January 3, 2023. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.10(5), 8.21, 8.30(4), 120.06(6)(b), Wis. Admin. Code EL § 6.04.

➤ *New Candidates*

File a campaign registration statement before campaign funds are collected or spent. Wis. Stat. §§ 11.0202(1)(a), 11.0101(1).

➤ *Continuing Candidates*

Amend your current registration, including the office sought and the new election and primary dates. Wis. Stat. §§ 11.0202 (1)(a), 11.0101(1).



Complete and submit a **Declaration of Candidacy (Form EL-162sd)** to the filing officer no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023**, or the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot. If the form is faxed or emailed, the original document must follow, postmarked no later than January 3, 2023. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.10(5), 8.21, 8.30(4), Wis. Admin. Code EL § 6.04

For additional information, contact:

The School District of Lodi District Office, 115 School Street, Lodi, WI 53555 (592-3851, ext. 5480)



Lodi Community Action Team

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles for Youth!



FENTANYL FACT SHEET



What is fentanyl?

FENTANYL is a deadly synthetic opioid that is being pressed into fake pills or cut into heroin, cocaine, and other street drugs to drive addiction.

Why is fentanyl so dangerous?

DEA lab testing reveals that four out of every ten fake pills with fentanyl contain a potentially lethal dose.



It only takes a very small dose of fentanyl – 2 milligrams – to be lethal, such as the amount found on the tip of a pencil.



What are fake pills?

The Sinaloa Cartel and Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generacion are making fentanyl and pressing it into fake pills. Fake pills are made to look like OxyContin®, Xanax®, Adderall®, and other pharmaceuticals. These fake pills contain no legitimate medicine.

FENTANYL IS 50x MORE POTENT THAN HEROIN

What are the physical and mental effects of fentanyl?

Fentanyl use can cause confusion, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, changes in pupil size, cold and clammy skin, coma, and respiratory failure leading to death.

Tips for Parents & Caregivers

- ▶ Encourage open and honest communication
- ▶ Explain what fentanyl is and why it is so dangerous
- ▶ Stress not to take any pills that were not prescribed to you from a doctor
- ▶ No pill purchased on social media is safe
- ▶ Make sure they know fentanyl has been found in most illegal drugs
- ▶ Create an "exit plan" to help your child know what to do if they're pressured to take a pill or use drugs

For more tips on how to talk to your child about drugs, read Chapter 4 of Growing Up Drug Free: A Parent's Guide to Substance Use Prevention at www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/publications



Fentanyl is also made in a rainbow of colors so it looks like candy.

These pills are **FAKE!** They are rainbow oxycodone M30 tablets containing fentanyl.

How would my child get fentanyl?

Drug traffickers are using social media to advertise drugs and conduct sales. If you have a smartphone and a social media account, then a drug trafficker can find you. This also means they are finding your kids who have social media accounts.

To learn about emoji codes used on social media, visit [Emoji Drug Code Decoded on www.dea.gov/onepill](http://www.dea.gov/onepill).

Lodi Community Action Team (LCAT)
Building Community To Empower Youth To Make Healthy Life Choices

www.LodiAction.org
[@Lodiaction](https://www.facebook.com/Lodiaction)

Why you should be concerned.

- ▶ The drug landscape is dramatically different from when you grew up, or even from just a few years ago.
- ▶ All parents and caregivers need to be educated on current drug threats to be able to have informed talks with their kids.

The above information was obtained from the Drug Enforcement Administration at www.dea.gov/onepill

NEED HELP?



24/7 Mental Health and AODA Crisis Line (Northwest Connections) 1-888-552-6642



Please Note: If you suspect an overdose, call 911 to get the person medical attention immediately!



Lodi C.R.E.W. and Pool

Community Resource Enrichment and Wellness

Lodi CREW and the Indoor Community Pool is the place to check out if you are looking for something to do. We offer programs for all ages and abilities. Our community collaborations bring out the best instructors and programs for the Lodi Community.

The Pool and CREW are blessed with a wonderful staff and volunteers. The pool has 24 staff members and is led by our aquatics manager Natalie Price. Natalie is Lifeguard and WSI Instructor certified and a valued member of our staff, ensuring “in house” Red Cross certifications for our community.

CREW has 20 (plus) instructors and staff. CREW could not exist and offer so many programs without all of our amazing community volunteers.

Everyone who is involved with any part of our programs knows Heidi Endres. Heidi does it all, from registrations, fliers, instructing, Lifeguarding and anything else it takes to keep our programs going!



Our “Little Explorers” program brings our youngest learners into one of the best learning environments you could wish for. Learning within the walls of the High School in collaboration with the High School staff and students, this program offers a great “first experience” of learning for 3 and 4 year-olds. High school students and teachers work together instructing our Little Explorers in various activities including Art, Music, movement, letter recognition and counting plus much more.



Walking Club – We offer a safe place to walk during the winter months. This program provides walking in the hallways of the high school, while having a little fun with monthly challenges which offers participants a chance to win prizes.

Movement and Strength – Join our Licensed Occupational Therapist, Stephanie Caves, as she guides participants through functional movement exercises.



Here is a list of some of the upcoming CREW programs:

- Boot Camp
- Little Explorers
- Little Devil Dancers
- Little Devil Dribblers
- 1st and 2nd grade girls basketball
- Little Yogis
- Movement and strength
- Youth Wrestling
- No School CREW Day programs
- Wellness programs for all ages



The Lodi Indoor Community Pool is the place to come for all your aquatics needs. Our fall sessions have tallied over 2500 patron uses at our pool. We offer affordable pool memberships allowing for open pool use and reduced program fees.

Here are some of the offerings at the Pool:

- Swim Lessons (including private lessons)
- Parent/tot swim lessons
- Aqua Fitness classes
- Private lessons
- Open lap and family swims
- Pool rental opportunities (such as birthday parties and more!)
- Pool memberships
- Red Cross Lifeguard and WSI certifications
- The Blue Wave CREW Youth swim team

The pool is also a great place to help with recovery from sports injuries for both students and adults!

Do you have a program idea? Please share your ideas and talents with CREW! We are always looking for new and exciting programs to share with the community!

To see current and upcoming programs check us out on the school website page: www.lodi.k12.wi.us click on the community tab and go to CREW or Indoor Community Pool.

Friend us on Facebook (Lodi CREW)



Make a difference in a child's life. Become a substitute teacher



The School District of Lodi just increased the rates for substitute teachers and support staff.
as of July 1, 2022

Substitute Teacher rates increased from \$130 to \$140/day
Substitute Administrative Assistant/Educational Assistant rates increased from \$12.50 to \$15.00/hour

If interested in a **rewarding opportunity** contact Emma Neumaier at neumaem@lodischoolswi.org for more information

Volunteers Needed

Do you love kids and have some extra time to spare? Consider volunteering in our schools. Your contribution will benefit teachers and students and be a rewarding experience for you. Community members and parents who volunteer in our schools, make a world of difference in the education of our students. There are many different ways to volunteer and share your talents. We encourage you to contact a building office for more information:

Primary School - 608.592.3855
Middle School - 608-592.3854

Elementary/OSC - 608.592.3842
High School - 608.538.3853



Connect with Us

Please check out our new page on how to connect with us. You will find this page with all the active links at: <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/about/connect-with-us>



How to Connect with Us

District Website



[Event calendars](#), [resources for families](#), [newsletters](#), [menus](#), [community information](#) and more. Each school has its own [website](#)



Infinite Campus Portal

Each parent/guardian is granted a [Parent Portal](#) account for their children. The portal gives access to grades, assignment due dates, attendance, paying fees, paying food accounts and more



Community Newsletters

It is important to us to keep the community informed. We offer several [newsletters](#) (both mailed and electronic) throughout the year that showcase our staff, our students and the important work being done across the district.



Email, Phone or Texts

Families can choose to be contacted via email, phone, voice or text message. In addition to school messaging, we will contact you in emergency situations such as weather closings or building emergencies. Please make sure your information in [Infinite Campus](#) is correct to ensure you receive these messages.

Get involved in our Schools



Attend music and sporting events, volunteer in the schools, attend theater events at our [Performing Arts Center](#). Use the [High School Pool](#) or check out our [Community Resource Enrichment Wellness programs](#) for all ages.

Follow us on Social Media! [FACEBOOK](#), [TWITTER](#), [INSTAGRAM](#) OR [YOUTUBE](#)



Get social with us on Social Media! This is a great way for you to see what is going on in our District, both in and outside the classroom. We also use our Facebook for school closing notice when needed.



Business & Operations

Brent Richter – Business Manager ♦592-3851 ♦richtbr@lodischoolswi.org

District and State Budget Cycle

A school district is continuously managing more than one budget at any one time. A school's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30, versus the calendar year, which begins on January 1 and ends on December 31. Currently, schools are operating under the second year of the State of Wisconsin's Biennial Budget.

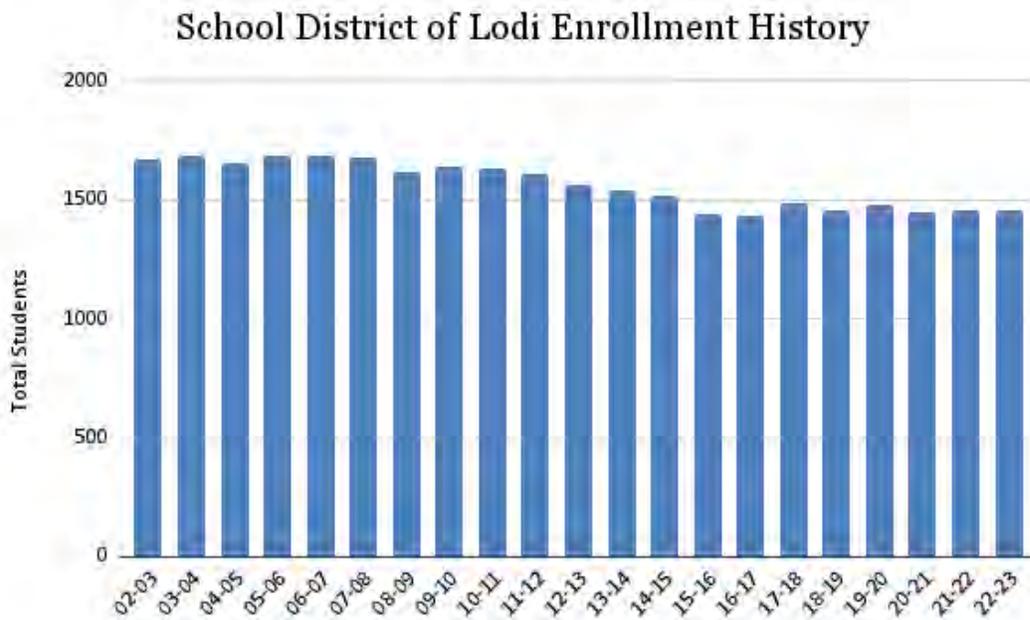
The State of Wisconsin's budget covers a 2-year period from July 1 of one odd-numbered year through June 30 of the next odd-numbered year. Development of the biennial budget involves a nearly year-long process. In the fall of the even-numbered year, state agencies submit budget requests to the Department of Administration. Requests are compiled by the State Budget Office for review by the Governor. The Governor is required by law to deliver the budget message to the new legislature on or before the last Tuesday in January, although the legislature can extend the deadline at the Governor's request.

To meet the state's budgetary cycle, the budget should be signed and effective by July 1 of the odd-numbered year. If there is a delay, state agencies operate at their appropriation authority from the prior budget until the new budget is in effect.

(Information above from the Department of Administration)

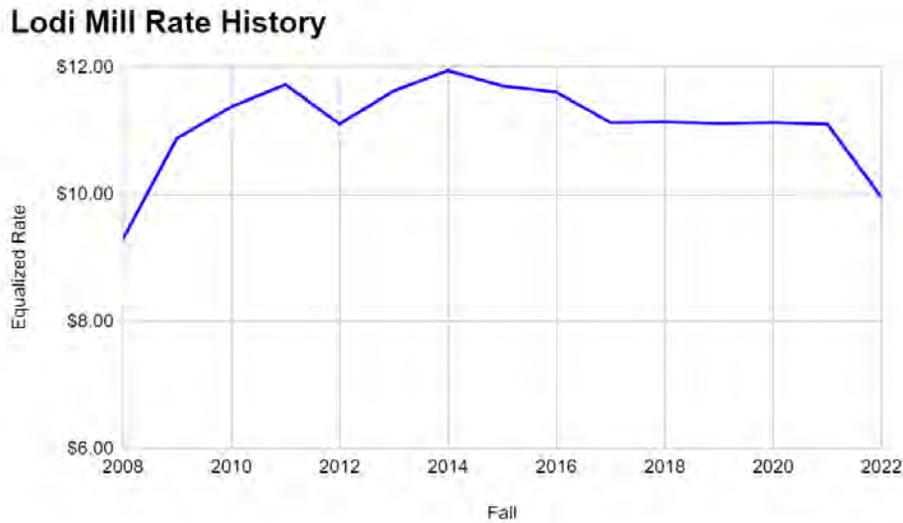
District Enrollment

Wisconsin public school districts are required to count pupils for membership purposes on the third Friday in September and second Friday in January and report the data to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Student count is very important for school districts as it is a key factor in determining revenue, state aid and staffing levels. In the past several years the School District of Lodi enrollment has stabilized at just under 1500 students. The following chart "School District of Lodi Enrollment History," illustrates the Lodi's enrollment over the past 20 years.



Mill Rate History

At the 2022 School District of Lodi Annual Meeting, held on October 24, 2022, the school district released the 2022-2023 all funds Mill Rate. This year, the district mill rate decreased 1.15 Mills, from 11.11 in 2021-2022 to 9.96 in the current year. The following chart “Lodi Mill Rate History” illustrates Lodi’s historical mill rates from 2008 to the present.



Referendum Project Listings

Lodi taxpayer’s approved a 5-year, \$5.98 million/year non-recurring referendum to maintain operations in April of 2022. The total amount of this referendum is \$29.9 million dollars, of which \$2.13 million/year or \$10.65 million dollars was approved for capital projects in the areas of facility improvements and technology updates. The district is providing regular updates on the progress of these projects on its website located at: <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/about/referendum-22>. The following chart depicts the timelines for the approved capital projects.

| 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Technology (District Wide Windows & Laptop Replacement) | Lodi Elementary/OSC Roof Improvement | Lodi Elementary/OSC Small Parking Lot | Technology (Cat 6 upgrade LES/OSC & DO) | Technology (Replace interactive displays) |
| High School Track Improvements | Lodi Elementary/OSC HVAC Updates | Lodi Elementary/OSC Playground Equipment | District Wide Sidewalk Repairs | High School Roof Phase III |
| | Middle School HVAC Updates | Middle School Chiller | Lodi Elementary/OSC Small Parking lot | High School Chiller |
| | Technology (WiFi system replacement, Cat 6 Access Pts) | High School HVAC Updates | High School Parking Lot | Middle School HVAC Updates |
| | | Technology (Replace switches, Cat 6 upgrade high school) | Middle School Generator | High School HVAC (Controls Update) |
| | | High School Roof Phase I | High School Roof Phase II | |



Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Nicholas Karls – Director of Curriculum & Instruction ♦592-3851 ♦karlsni@lodischoolswi.org

School District of Lodi Families and Community,

As someone who has multiple children of my own attending the School District of Lodi, I know firsthand the plethora of amazing opportunities our students get to experience on a daily basis. Not only are our students challenged and engaged academically, but I am also impressed with our dedication to the arts, physical fitness/health, career/technical education, etc.

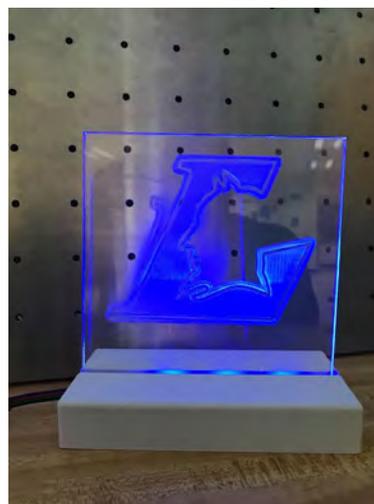
Below you will find just a few additional highlights from the many amazing things occurring in the School District of Lodi and department of Curriculum & Instruction. If you are looking for holiday gifts, our Fabrication Lab is a great resource!

Innovative Community Connection - Lodi Fabrication Lab Holiday Sale

The Lodi Fabrication Lab is a student-run manufacturer of both stock and customizable products. All customer requests, quotes, prototypes, and final products are managed by Lodi Fabrication Lab students. This is a unique opportunity for our students as they continue to model a small manufacturing business. All profits and donations go toward purchasing materials, machine upgrades, and new tools.

Please browse through our product pages; we specialize in Lodi gear but can customize almost anything. Our catalog can be found on the School District of Lodi website under Our District and Lodi Fabrication Lab or at the URL listed below. We are offering a limited selection of products during the holiday season to ensure that we can manufacture gifts before the start of winter break.

(<https://sites.google.com/lodischoolswi.org/lodi-fablab/home>)



Preparing for the Future - School District of Lodi Exceeds Expectations on State Report Card



The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is required by state statute (Wis. Stat. 115.385) to generate school and district report cards for every publicly funded school and district in the state. The report cards are intended to help schools and districts use performance data to celebrate success and improve their efforts to prepare students for their futures. These report cards include data on multiple indicators for multiple years across four priority areas (Achievement, Growth, Target Group Outcomes, and On-track to Graduation). Based on its

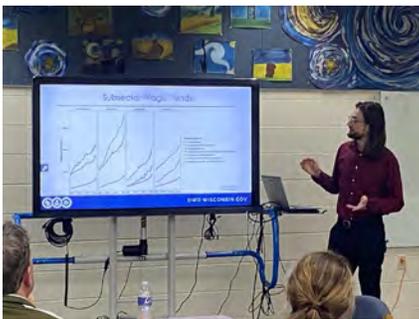
score, a school or district receives one of five rating categories, from *Fails to Meet Expectations* to *Significantly Exceeds Expectations*. Once again, the School District of Lodi received a rating from the state of Exceeds Expectations. Lodi High School, Lodi Middle School, & Lodi Elementary School also received ratings of Exceeds Expectations. Ouisconsing School of Collaboration (OSC) received a rating of Meets Expectations. Internally, our teams have had the opportunity to analyze these reports to celebrate areas of success and be responsive to areas we self-identify for growth. If you would like to learn more about the School District of Lodi reports, please use the following link. (<https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/our-district/curriculum-instruction>).

Did you know... During the 2020/2021 school year, 45.5% of Lodi High School students successfully completed at least one Advanced Placement course. The state average during this same timeframe was 19.9%! WOW! Also, during this same time period, students at Lodi High School engaged in music and art courses at a higher rate than the state average.



Supporting District Workforce - School District of Lodi Awarded \$12,500 Peer Review Mentoring Grant

Providing mentoring to our newest educators is a key component of attracting and retaining high-quality staff. The School District of Lodi was recently awarded \$12,500 through the 2022/2023 Peer Review Mentoring Grant project. The intent of this grant is to support public school districts in developing or refining peer review and mentoring support programs for initial educators. The bulk of our allotment will be allocated to mentor stipends so that our amazing veteran educators can support those new to the School District of Lodi.



Preparing for the Future/Operational Excellence - Career & Technical Education

During the strategic planning process, the community asked the School District of Lodi to continue to analyze and further develop Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming for our students. As an initial step in this process, administrators, CTE teachers, counselors, and a few Board members held a session with a senior research analyst from the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) in an attempt to better understand current and future labor market information for our region. We are truly thankful that the DWD was willing to hold this free informational session for our team to develop a foundational understanding prior to our planning process.



Student Services

Adria Schroeder, Student Services ♦592-3851 ♦schroad@lodischoolswi.org

School and Community Resources Available to Families in Need

Free and Reduced Meals

Students in households receiving benefits from FoodShare, the Food Distribution Program, or W-2 cash benefits, as well as children in foster care, children who meet the definition of homeless, and children whose household income is at or below the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines are eligible to receive Free and Reduced Meals. More information about Free and Reduced Meals and the application can be found on the Lodi School's District Website under "Our Families" and then "Food Service." If you have questions about Free and Reduced Meals, contact Ariel Andrews at 608-592-3855 x1017 or andrear@lodischoolswi.org.

Blessings in a Backpack

Blessings in a Backpack is a non-profit organization that feeds over 88,900 students in over 1090 schools in 46 U.S. States and the District of Columbia. The program is a hybrid of private sector funding and public partnership carried out in public schools. Blessings in a Backpack provides food on the weekends for students in need in the School District of Lodi. Bags are distributed in a discreet and confidential manner. If you are interested in this program, please contact Adria Schroeder - Director of Student Services at 608-532-3851 x5486 or schroad@lodischoolswi.org.

If you are in a position to donate to Blessings in a Backpack on behalf of students in the Lodi Community, you may donate in two ways.

1. Donations by mail: All checks should be made out to "Blessings in a Backpack" with LODI WI SCHOOLS 1832 in the memo line. Checks can be dropped off locally or mailed to:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Lodi Primary School | Lori Harrestein, Treasurer |
| c/o Val Bilkey | 254 Lodi Street |
| 1307 Sauk Street | Lodi, WI 53555 |
| Lodi, WI 53555 | |
2. Donations by visiting the website (blessingsinabackpack.org) and make your payment online using a credit or debit card. Under the "Designation" section choose "specific school." Then in the "comments" box, type LODI WI SCHOOLS 1832. If you would like the gift to be a monthly recurring donation, you may click the Recurring Gift button below the "additional information" section and enter the "end" and "start" dates.

Reach Out Lodi

Reach Out Lodi is a not for profit organization that has food, clothing, school supplies, and other basic essentials available for families. Call ahead to set up an appointment and check on available resources.

Address: 601 Clark Street, Lodi, WI 53555

Phone Number: 608-592-4592

Santa Project

The Santa Project is an organization within the Lodi Community that has been providing Christmas gifts, winter gear, clothing, shoes, and other necessities to families with children in our school district who are in need of assistance. For more information, please contact:

Pam Cunningham

lodisantaproject@gmail.com

608-220-2452



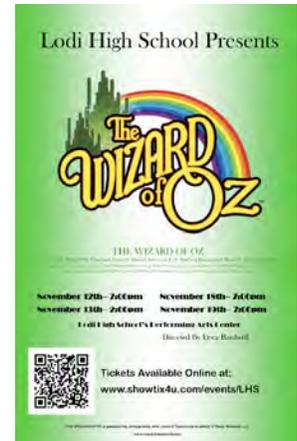
Joe Jelinek – Principal
592-3853 ext. 4402

High School Highlights

Jason Marshall- Associate Principal
592-3853 ext. 4403



Do you remember where you were the first time you watched *The Wizard of Oz*? If you were a kid in the 1970's like I was, you had only one chance each year, so the annual airing of *The Wizard of Oz* on network television was a family event. It's amazing that a movie originally released back in 1939 had the power to enthrall me with its magical characters, wicked witch and flying monkeys—and it still does. I guess that's what makes it a classic. These days, when anyone can easily stream *The Wizard of Oz*, it remains a family favorite. That's why Director Erica Bardwell chose it for this year's Lodi High School musical.



Overall, 89 students from three different schools are involved in Lodi's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Many are performing on stage and in the orchestra pit, while others are behind the scenes with stage crew, sound, and lighting. Something especially unique about this year's play is that twenty of the cast members making their stage debut are students at the Primary or Elementary School. In addition, 37 parents and volunteers from the community help make the show possible by building sets, coordinating effects, designing costumes, performing music, and managing the stage. The production is a collaborative effort that requires a huge commitment from everyone involved.

The musical is a community effort as well. This year, Electronic Theater Controls loaned the school a sound board, light board, and lights. They even provided a team to help hang the lights. All totaled, Lodi High School used almost \$200,000 in loaned equipment. A huge thank you to Electronic Theater Controls!

When the curtain goes up and you're captivated by the play, it's easy to forget about all the work that led up to the performance. For the high school students involved, being part of the musical means committing to three months of daily rehearsals and lessons while maintaining good grades in challenging courses and participating in other co-curricular activities. They have to stay organized and balance the rigorous time demands of their busy schedules. Thirty-three of our musical students were involved in a sport, with all eight fall sports represented. Forty-six students are involved in at least one other co-curricular activity, with nineteen total co-curriculars represented. Knowing that all this is going on behind the scenes in our kids' lives makes their performance even more impressive. They learn so much from their theater experience.

It's amazing how many people have come together to make this year's performance live up to the excitement of the classic movie we all watched as children. Based on Director Erica Bardwell's long list of successful productions over the past ten years, there was no doubt that *The Wizard of Oz* was going to be spectacular.



Which of these Lodi High School musicals have you seen?

- 2022 *The Wizard of Oz*
- 2021 *Disney's High School Musical*
- 2019 *The Pajama Game*
- 2018 *Legally Blonde*
- 2017 *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*
- 2016 *Shrek the Musical*
- 2015 *Bye Bye Birdie*
- 2014 *Seussical the Musical*
- 2013 *Thoroughly Modern Millie*





*Derek Pertzborn – Principal
592-3854 ext. 3202*

Middle School Maneuvers



*Peter Franklin, Dean of Students
592-3854 ext. 3203*

Pillar 1 - Preparing for the Future

Exploring academic and career excellence for diverse futures through opportunity, relevance, & readiness.

As a school district, we are dedicated to providing students opportunities to plan for their future and explore careers. Lodi Middle School implements this vision by providing students opportunities to reflect on their strengths, interests, and possible careers linked to these. Although middle schoolers are several years away from entering a career, we can take steps to help students understand themselves and the types of careers they may be interested in pursuing.

One way that we carry out our community’s vision is by utilizing a program called Xello. The goal of using Xello is to deliver personalized engagement for students when thinking about their future, specifically careers. Students create self-knowledge through a series of assessments that help the Xello program understand the student’s interests. From here, Xello creates a career profile for each student and career clusters that match their interest and skill set. In addition, Xello informs students what educational path they would need to pursue in order to enter these careers, whether that is an apprenticeship, 2-year degree, or 4-year degree. All of these help to educate students on different types of careers and which ones match their interest.

In addition to using Xello, Lodi Middle School looks for opportunities outside of our school walls. This school year the 6th grade team took a field trip to the Wisconsin Science Festival at the UW-Madison Discovery Center. Students were able to participate in real world learning experiences pertaining to future careers in science and ask questions of the professionals that experience science daily. In November, 7th grade students will be attending the Future Quest career expo in Madison to create career awareness around career clusters. At the career expo, students will be able to experience what it would be like to have a job in different fields, such as construction or in a hospital. In May, 8th grade students will attend a Career and College Fair at Madison College. Students will be able to visit tables that will get them information about careers such as machining, nursing, childcare, and biotech. In addition, students will be given information about educational opportunities to pursue that career.

Although full time careers are a way off for middle school students, it is important for them to begin the process of learning about different career paths. Learning about these career paths will help students plan for future academic work or additional career planning in high school and beyond. Our role in this is to support students in reflecting on their skills and interests in order to help them create career readiness. By providing students with opportunities to learn about careers, we are also helping them to plan for their future opportunities and paths to get to those careers.

Did you know?

- There is a Frisbee golf course behind the Middle School on the hill?
- Part of the State Ice Age Trail is behind the Middle School.

6th Grade Field Trip - Wisconsin Science Festival

6th grade students attended the Wisconsin Science Festival at the UW Madison Discovery Center. Students were engaged in hands-on stations that covered all areas of science, life science, physical science, earth and space science and engineering. Students were able to participate in real world learning experiences pertaining to future careers in science and ask questions to the professionals that experience science daily.



8th Grade - Career Fair at Madison College - May 2022

On May 3, 2022, the 8th grade class had the opportunity to attend a Career and College Fair at Madison College. They visited a variety of program tables (machine tool, nursing, childcare, biotech) and toured the Truax Building. A highlight of the trip for many 8th graders was learning that they could begin taking college courses during their junior year of high school. In addition, on our tour when we went to the "Machine Lab" area we got several tours of different sections.





Elementary/OSC Excerpts

By Eric Scheunemann, Elementary/OSC School Principal ♦592-3842 ext. 2102 ♦Grades 3-5

Hello, Lodi Community members. My name is Eric Scheunemann. I am excited to introduce myself to you as the new Lodi Elementary School/OSC Principal. I joined the School District of Lodi after spending 17 years in the Sauk Prairie School district as a Physical Education Teacher and as a Leadership Associate/Dean of Students. Just like Lodi Elementary School and OSC, the building I served and led at previously consisted of 3rd-5th grade learners. The Lodi Community, along with the amazing staff, students, families and leadership is what attracted me to this position. This is a special community and school district, and your vision and values align with mine. I value people, conversations, and growth. I will work to live out those values as I lead, keeping in mind the very important job we have to live out the School District of Lodi vision, which is:

“In partnership with our community, nurturing every student’s potential for growth and opportunities – socially, mentally, and academically in a safe, respectful, and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers.”

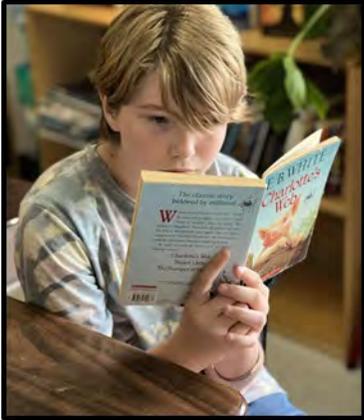
My wife and our family live just across the lake in Merrimac. We have six children, two cats, two fish and a bird. Our oldest daughter is almost 21 and just got married in October. This year the rest of our children will all be at different schools besides our twins. Our twin daughters will be seniors, our oldest son will be a 6th grader, our next oldest son will be a 5th grader, and our youngest son will be a 2nd grader. We love spending time together, whether it be hiking, boating, fishing, hunting, biking, playing games or hosting family and friends. I understand and respect the important role family has in each of our lives and I am very thankful for my family and the support they give me.

My commitment to lifelong learning and education is a family tradition. My grandmother was a teacher and principal, my parents were both teachers, and my wife is a teacher. My wife worked at Lodi Elementary School for 9 years, so we already respect and care deeply about the people and the work the staff at Lodi Elementary School and OSC do. I am honored to lead a building full of staff that are not only skilled, but also care so much about our students.

It has been a true pleasure getting the school year started and getting to meet students and families. The Lodi Community has lots to be proud of. You have an amazing staff, hardworking students, and a very supportive community. I have included some pictures of some of what we have been up to at LES/OSC. Like I mentioned earlier, Lodi is a special community to be a part of and LES/OSC is a special place to go to work each day! I look forward to meeting you and serving you and the School District of Lodi with Lodi Pride!



The AT&T Pioneers came and painted a map of the United States and did a wonderful job. They were great to work with. It was an amazing experience for our students to see the power of volunteerism at work!





Primary Pride

By Amy Fassbender, Primary School Principal ♦592-3855 ext. 1002 ♦Grades EC/K4-2

We are just finishing our first quarter of the 2022-2023 school year and have wonderful things occurring and planned for the coming months!

As a staff we are working on implementing strategies to work towards the five pillars of the District Strategic Plan. Here are a few of the things that we have been focusing on.

- **Pillar 1 Preparing Our Students for the Future** - Staff were able to participate in some professional development opportunities in early August and October around guided reading and phonics instruction. We were able to have Dr. Jan Richardson return to the Primary School on November 3 to help grade level teams with planning for our small group instruction. This was a huge success! Building a strong tier 1 program helps create the foundation for all the other grades.
- **Pillar 2 Nurturing the Whole Child** - During the month of October and November we had an Operation Kindness mission to celebrate Bully Prevention Month (October) and World Kindness Day (November 13). Our mission started Monday, October 17 and went through Friday, November 18. Students participated in a variety of activities including daily "random acts of kindness" missions, working with a secret buddy classroom, and getting their picture taken for an *I am the "I" in KIND* photo display, etc.

Here are a couple of other highlights:

- **Big Buddies** - We are excited to share that we are continuing our Big Buddies program with the Lodi High School Leadership Council this year. The purpose of Big Buddies is for High School students to serve as positive role models and mentors for younger students in our community. The Big Buddies will meet once a month at the Primary School. The students will participate in fun activities and engage in friendly conversation on various topics to get to know each other.
- **Fall Fest and Halloween Parade** - Each year 4K families are invited after school to partake in the 4K Fall Fest that includes a costume parade and then other fall activities. Students in grades K-2 then do a costume parade on October 31 outside of the school for families to come and watch and take pictures.



- **Shooting Stars** - Similar to last year, I want to continue to work on connecting with each of the students at the Primary and their families. I will be selecting 2-3 students as "Shooting Stars." The student comes down to the office where we call home and celebrate the great things that child is doing in the classroom. This year I am asking them to share how they demonstrate "caring hearts and/or curious minds." This

connects to our school motto. This year the students will then get a chance to sit in a special chair. For grades K-2, they will sit in one of my principal chairs for the day.



- **Heritage Park** - Last spring our students participated in a fundraiser called Stride With Pride. Students and volunteers walked part of the Ice Age Trail and received donations for completing this walk. Our families and community members were very generous and we were able to earn \$5,473! With these funds, and with previous funds that we had earned, we will be purchasing a final add on to Heritage Park. Our hope is that this will be installed this coming Spring so that students and families in the area can stop by and use this equipment.



- **Mileage Club** - Mileage Club is returning to the Primary School! A special thanks to Diana Karls and Heidi Endres, for writing a grant to receive money for this! During recess, our grade K, 1 and 2 students can choose to run around a .25 mile loop on the playground and earn special prizes when they complete 5 miles.



- **Opera for the Young** - On October 14, Lodi Primary School joined the Elementary/OSC School for the Opera For The Young's performance of "The Barber of Seville." Not only did we show the OFTY performers that we were excellent audience members, we were also able to sing along with the opera cast on four songs. Our Lodi Musicians were amazing! We found out that opera can be fun!



A huge thank you again to the Lodi community for all their support of our school! We are welcoming volunteers into the building to support our students and staff. If you have any interest in coming to do this, please feel free to reach out to our school office at 608-592-3855. We would love to have you join us!



Winter Concerts

All concerts are held at the HS Performing Arts Center

December 1st ~ 4K at 5:30 pm

December 8th ~ 6th Grade Band & Choir at 6:30 pm

December 8th ~ 7th/8th Grade Band & Choir at 7:30 pm

December 9th ~ ES/OSC at 12:15 pm

- 12:15 pm: OSC
- 1:05 pm: Grade 3
- 1:40 pm: Grade 4
- 2:15 pm: Grade 5

December 16 ~ K-2nd Grades

- 12:20 pm: Kindergarten
- 1:05 pm: 1st Grade
- 2:00 pm: 2nd Grade
- December 20th ~ HS Band & Choir at 7 pm

Important Dates

December:

- 2 No School – Professional Development for Staff
- 12 School Board Regular Meeting
- 14 FFA Blood Drive
- 26 No School Start of Winter Break

January:

- 3 Classes Resume
- 3 Last day to file paperwork for School Board Election (no later than 5 pm)
- 4 PS Development Screening
- 9 School Board Regular Meeting
- 16 No School – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 17-19 HS Finals
- 19 End of Semester
- 20 No School – Professional Development for Staff
- 20 Rock the Gym

February:

- 9 4K Date Night 6-7 pm
- 13 School Board Regular Meeting
- 17 No School – Professional Development for Staff
- 20-24 National FFA Week



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Lodi, WI 53555

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All School Buildings including the District Office will closed at the end of the school day, Friday, December 23, 2022
Classes Resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2023

Website:
www.lodi.k12.wi.us