

# REPORT CARD

January 2024

A Lakewood City Schools Community Newsletter

## STATE AWARDS WEST SHORE CAREER-TECH NEARLY \$6M FOR WELDING, MEMS PROGRAMS

In November, the West Shore Career-Technical District was awarded a \$5.78 million career-tech expansion grant from the State of Ohio as part of the State's efforts to improve technical education and training across Ohio. The grant will allow West Shore to build facilities to house programs in welding and micro electronic mechanical systems (MEMS), which is the technology

behind computer chips, among other applications. West Shore was the only grant applicant to receive money for a MEMS program.

These two programs will be housed at Lakewood High School and will be able to serve an additional 96 West Shore Career-Tech students from Lakewood, Bay Village, Rocky River and Westlake. West Shore

Career-Tech is a consortium comprised of those four school districts.

"We are delighted to hear that we have received the grant funds for two new exciting programs. Advancing educational and career opportunities for our students is our mission," said Lakewood Superintendent Maggie Niedzwiecki.

See **GRANT** Page 4



## VISION OF A LAKEWOOD RANGER FOCUS: LAKEWOOD HIGH PHILANTHROPY CLUB

A new club at Lakewood High School, funded by a grant from the Healthy Lakewood Foundation, has wrapped up its work this school year and in doing so, left several Lakewood nonprofits richer for it.

Jason Weiner, Lakewood City Schools parent and development professional, proposed the club idea and was able to secure \$5,000 through Healthy Lakewood Foundation's Neighborhood Opportunity Grant Program to fund it. The club was a great way for our older students to work on the global citizenship component of our Vision of a Lakewood Ranger.

Weiner teamed with Lakewood High teacher Alison Gliozzi to guide a small group of sophomores and juniors who wanted to learn about philanthropy and all its facets. The students worked with their advisers through a



months-long philanthropic decision-making process that resulted in purposeful and mission-aligned grants awarded via the Healthy Lakewood Foundation to Colors+ (\$1,200), Gigi's Playhouse (\$1,300) and Lakewood Young Filmmakers Academy (\$1,500).

Club member Stevie Williams said they were "happy to be able to support organizations doing work that they thought was important."

See **CLUB** Page 4

## Celebrating our seniors!



No, not those seniors...our Lakewood senior citizens. The District in December hosted a holiday breakfast for our community seniors with student music, presentations, questions for the superintendent and great food! A wonderful morning!

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## REPORT CARD/ Financial Update

### From the Treasurer:



We are pleased to present the Lakewood City School District's Financial Update for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. This report makes our District's finances easier to understand, and is intended to communicate our financial situation in an open and accountable manner.

The Financial Update summarizes the financial activities and operating results reported in the Lakewood City School District's audited Annual Financial Report. The Financial Update is unaudited and presented on a non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principle) basis, which primarily deals with full disclosure and segregated funds.

The statement and the pie charts presented on these pages detail the General Fund of the District. The General Fund is the largest fund from which most day-to-day programs and services are provided. The influx of federal funding related to the multiple coronavirus relief programs previously helped to offset general fund expenditures prior to FY 2023. These one-time dollars were used to help offset additional expenditures associated with the District's response to the coronavirus pandemic. In FY 2023, those dollars were no longer available and those expenditures that had been offset returned to the General Fund. For more detailed financial information, including a discussion of key changes in financial data from last fiscal year, our economic condition and outlook, initiatives and accomplishments, please refer to a copy of the Annual Financial Report. You can find the Annual Financial Report posted on the District website ([www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org)) upon completion of the audit process (anticipated Jan. 2024).

The Lakewood City School District is proud of this report and the support offered by the Board of Education in its creation. Ultimately, we would like to thank our citizens for their encouragement in creating a report designed to more adequately address their needs as taxpayers, as well as for the opportunity to serve them. Please contact me with any questions, comments and feedback regarding this report at (216)529-4096 or [kent.zeman@lakewoodcityschools.org](mailto:kent.zeman@lakewoodcityschools.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Kent R. Zeman, CPA  
Treasurer/CFO

### RESOURCES TAKEN IN

		FY 2023
Local Taxes	62.08%	\$ 51,400,665
State Revenue	28.40%	\$ 23,513,130
Federal Revenue	0.26%	\$ 212,797
Investment Income	2.43%	\$ 2,008,095
Tuition & Fees	3.35%	\$ 2,775,471
Recreation Fees & Tuition	1.31%	\$ 1,088,719
Interfund Receipts	0.00%	\$ -
Miscellaneous	2.18%	\$ 1,804,731
<b>Total Revenue &amp; Resources</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 82,803,608</b>

### SERVICES PROVIDED

		FY 2023
Instruction	62.89%	\$ 48,018,702
Pupil Support	6.15%	\$ 4,695,218
Instructional Support	4.26%	\$ 3,255,796
Board & Administration	9.15%	\$ 6,987,832
Business Support	1.08%	\$ 826,791
Plant Operations	11.79%	\$ 9,000,733
Transportation	0.48%	\$ 370,077
Central Support	0.57%	\$ 436,106
Civic Auditorium	0.27%	\$ 205,165
Recreation	2.01%	\$ 1,535,303
Extracurricular	1.34%	\$ 1,026,861
Interfund Expenditures	0.00%	\$ 0
<b>Total Expenditures &amp; Services</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 76,358,584</b>
<b>Revenue &amp; Resources Over Expenditures &amp; Services</b>		<b>\$ 6,445,024</b>

## FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In 2013, the Board of Education created a Financial Advisory Committee to work with the District treasurer, superintendent, and the Board of Education members assigned to the Finance Committee. The purpose of the committee is advisory in nature and to work in a cooperative and collaborative manner in the following areas: review the annual state audit and address any concerns; conduct a pre-audit and post-audit meeting; share business and financial "Best Practices;" review the Five-Year Forecast; and make an annual report to the Board.

The committee is comprised of three citizens who are Lakewood residents appointed by the Board. The Board seeks citizens with financial and/or audit experience, such as CPAs, CFOs, CEOs, or bankers. In order to establish a rotation of filling one position each year, the first set of appointments include one member serving three years in length with the other two appointments being one- and two-year terms each.

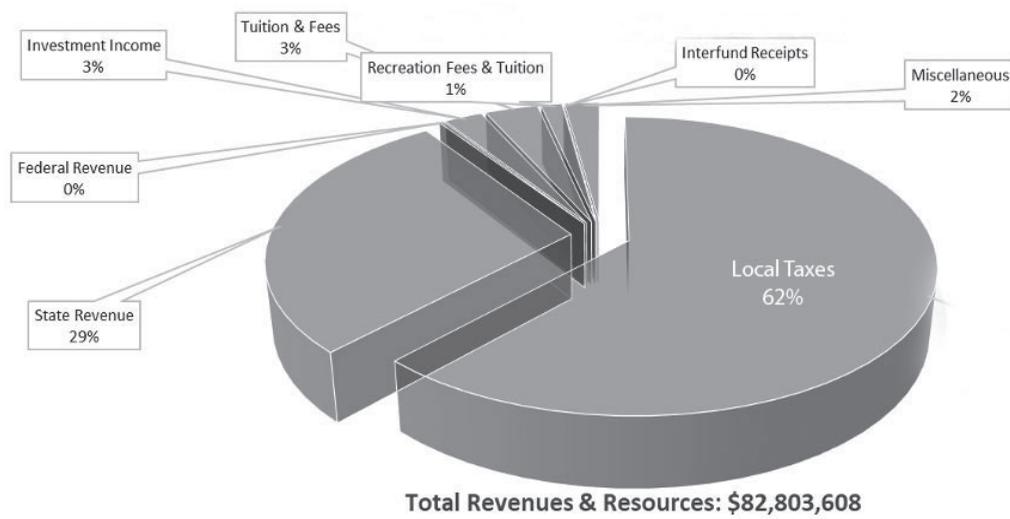
The committee meets four to five times a year. Meetings dates are posted on the District calendar at [www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org). Meetings are open to the public.

The following are the current committee members:

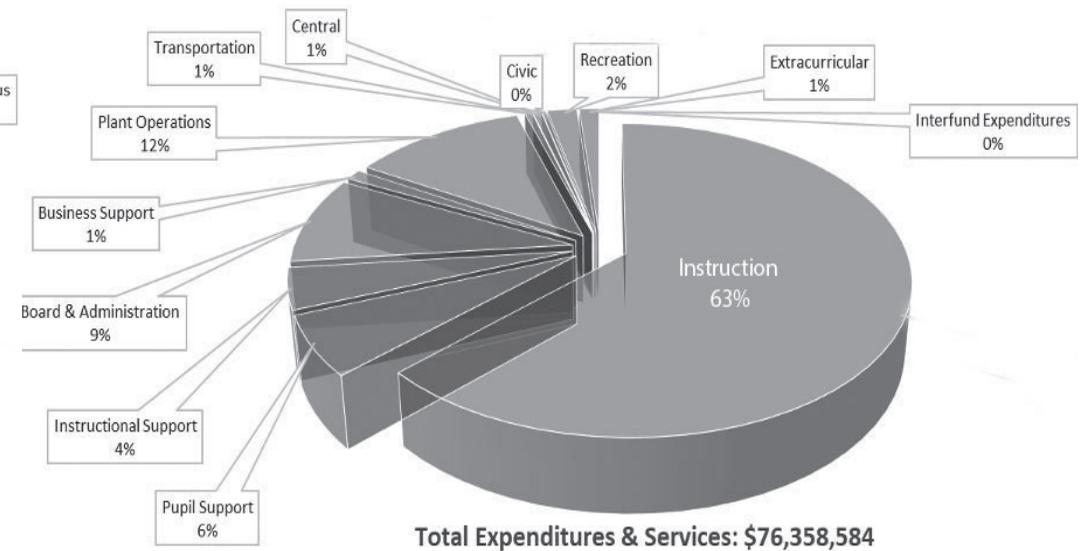
Ken Farley, Timothy Homan, Kathleen Neal

Board members: Betsy Bergen Shaughnessy and Lisa Dopman

## Revenues & Resources Fiscal Year 2023 (Where the General Fund Money Comes From)



## Expenditures & Services Fiscal Year 2023 (Where the Money Goes)



## Definitions

### Revenue & Resources:

**Local Taxes** is the largest revenue source for the District and is comprised of residential, commercial (retail), industrial (manufacturing), and public utilities taxes paid by the property owners.

**State Revenue** is comprised of state per pupil aid (approximately \$3,541 per pupil) and property tax relief reimbursement (better known as Homestead and Rollback). The Rollback reimbursement was eliminated for any issues approved after September 2013.

**Federal Revenue** is comprised of funds received relating to technology reimbursements (E-Rate) and Medicaid reimbursements relating to federal programs.

**Investment Income** funds are derived from the investment of available funds in excess of the monthly cash flow requirements.

**Tuition & Fees** relates to receipts generated by tuition received from other districts the Lakewood City Schools is required to educate (i.e, the West Shore Career-Technical District), student school fees and pay to participate fees.

**Recreation Fees & Tuition** relates to receipts generated by Lakewood Community Recreation and Education for the activities and programs

offered throughout the year.

**Interfund Receipts** are comprised of internal transactions within the District that are directly offset by Interfund Expenditures.

**Miscellaneous** funds are made up of service agreements, building rentals, lease agreements, etc. (e.g. naming rights for First Federal Lakewood Stadium and First Federal Community Fitness Center and Track).

### Expenditures & Services:

**Instruction** is the largest expenditure category and relates to the direct instruction of our students. Students are directly impacted by the expenditures in this category.

**Pupil Support** areas comprise all counseling services, health/safety monitors, health aides, nurses, speech, hearing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services and pupil accounting services.

**Instructional Support** costs include library services, curriculum development, staff training and licensed professional development committee.

**Board & Administration** costs represent those of the administration and Board of Education's operation of the District. Also included in this category is school building secretarial support

and financial services, such as payroll, accounts payable and receivable, auditing, budgeting and reporting and data processing.

**Business Support** costs include business services such as copier expenditures.

**Plant Operation** expenditures relate to the safe and efficient environment of the school including building maintenance, grounds and custodial services and utilities.

**Transportation** expenditures relate to providing transportation for students with disabilities who live in the Lakewood City School District.

**Central Support** expenditures include administrative technology services.

**Civic** expenditures include operation costs associated with the Lakewood Civic Auditorium.

**Recreation** expenditures account for the operations of the Lakewood Community Recreation and Education Department for the adult and youth programs provided to the residents of the City of Lakewood.

**Extracurricular** expenditures account for the salaries, benefits, and supplies for club and athletic related activities.

# REPORT CARD

## The Lakewood Board of Education

Michael J. Callahan, *President*  
Nora Katzenberger, *Vice President*  
Colleen Clark-Sutton, *Member*  
Lisa Dopman, *Member*  
Betsy Bergen Shaughnessy, *Member*

### Administration

Maggie Niedzwiecki, *Superintendent*  
Kent Zeman, *Treasurer*

### Editor

Christine Gordillo

All courses and programs offered by the Lakewood City Schools and the West Shore Career-Technical District are without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, creed, gender, marital status, disability or age in its educational programs, activities, employment policies or admission policies as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The District provides equal access to Boy Scouts and other designated groups. Jeffrey Schlade serves as Title IX Coordinator and Lisa Bruening as 504 Officer.

Board of Education  
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## POSTAL CUSTOMER

## REC DEPARTMENT UPDATES ON EVENTS, REGISTRATION & MORE

**Winter Booklet Out Now!** If you haven't seen it already, our 2024 Winter Booklet is posted on the Rec website with offerings for anyone. We have several new programs such as adaptive art and music, karate, chess, and virtual yoga. Our ever popular Tiny Turners (beginning gymnastics), Eager Engineer series and adult tap are also back. We look forward to seeing you in the

classroom, on the fields or in the pools soon!

**Registrations Open:** Youth summer baseball/softball registration is open for ages 4 and up. Reminder: Be sure to have a copy of a birth certificate and current physical at the time of registration. Winter aquatics registration opened Jan. 16, spaces fill fast! Summer camps (Kids Connection, Camp Can

Do/S.T.O.P., Safety Town, ROCK ON! and more) open March 5.

**Purple & Gold Classic:** The annual districtwide 5th grade basketball tournament will take place Saturday, April 6. Our 5th grade teams have begun to practice and prepare for the prestigious Commissioner's Cup!

**Seasonal/part time jobs:** We are looking to hire for several seasonal and part-time positions



such as event staff and field supervisors. Visit our website or stop in the office if you are interested. Fill out a general application today and get started immediately.

## GRANT from PAGE 1

"Each of these additions accelerates our students' abilities to gain employment in high-demand jobs when they graduate."

Dr. Yakoob Badat, educational coordinator of West Shore, added: "The acquisition of \$5.7 million in funding will empower us to establish cutting-edge welding and MEMS labs. This significant grant is an investment that will drive innovation and create new opportunities for our students. Thank you to the state

leadership for supporting career technical education and workforce development."

The welding facility is slated to be housed behind the high school north of the D building, where West Shore's Auto-Tech and Construction Trades programs are currently taught. The MEMS program will be in Lakewood High School, replacing some current classrooms. Both the MEMS and welding program footprints will include lab and classroom space.

## LISTEN & LEARN SET FOR JAN. 24

Superintendent Maggie Niedzwiecki's next Listen & Learn session is Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 6 pm. The session will be held in Hayes Elementary's LRC. Listen & Learn sessions are one-hour informal discussions where the superintendent welcomes your thoughts, ideas and concerns.

## CLUB from PAGE 1

Weiner said the students explored what they care about (and why), and what kind of impact they wanted to have with the funds available. Through the process, they gained an understanding about work being done in the nonprofit sector, and made difficult and informed decisions when it came time to award grants.

"I couldn't be more proud of these students, who knew almost nothing about nonprofits and philanthropy when we got started last spring," Weiner said. Weiner hopes that philanthropy and community engagement will now be a part of their lives in the future.

As far as Healthy Lakewood, the foundation executive director, Kate Ingersoll, said she hopes to expand this type of engagement with students moving forward.

## KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS SURPASS \$3 MILLION

The application period for the annual Kiwanis of Lakewood senior scholarships is now open. We thought this would be a good time to acknowledge that with last year's awarded scholarships the group has now given more than \$3 million to our graduates! Last year, Kiwanis gave out 14 \$10,000 scholarships. Members of the Class of 2024 can apply now for this year's scholarships. Visit the Kiwanis website at [www.kiwanisfoundation.com/scholarships](http://www.kiwanisfoundation.com/scholarships).