



Fall 2023 Newsletter

Keeping Lake County students safe

Superintendent Statement

Every student deserves a quality education in a safe and nurturing environment. Studies show that when students feel safe in school, they are more likely to attend regularly, stay focused on learning, and have improved emotional well-being. Ensuring student safety is a collaborative effort that involves everyone - parents, teachers, staff, and even students. Together, we can create a safe and supportive learning community. Thank you for your partnership in keeping our students safe.

Brock Falkenberg,
Lake County Superintendent of Schools

Cyber Security Awareness Month

From the Lake County Office of Education Information Technology (IT) Department

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month. It is crucial to ensure that our students, educators, and families are well-informed about cybersecurity best practices. Here are four important facts to consider during this Cyber Security Awareness Month:

- **Regular Software Updates:** Highlight the importance of keeping software, applications, and devices up to date. Outdated software can contain vulnerabilities that hackers may exploit.
- **Strong Passwords are Key:** Encourage the use of strong, unique passwords for all online accounts and devices.
- **Data Privacy Matters:** Stress the importance of protecting personal and sensitive data.
- **Phishing Awareness:** Teach students and staff to recognize phishing attempts. Provide examples of phishing emails and messages and advise on the importance of not clicking on suspicious links.

Tobacco Prevention

LCOE Healthy Start Program - From the Lake County Record-Bee National Night Out Article

The Lake County Office of Education's Healthy Start featured a stark reminder of the risks of tobacco use with a display of healthy gums and teeth contrasted to a smoker's, which had been damaged by cancer and emphysema, during National Night Out in Lakeport.

Healthy Start will also table at different schools, displaying models and talking to students about the dangers of using drugs during Red Ribbon Week this year, which is October 23 - 31, 2023.

Teen Driver Safety Week

National Teen Driver Safety Week is October 15-21, 2023. Parents should have conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a motor vehicle. These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers: alcohol, inconsistent or no seat belt use, distracted and drowsy driving, speeding, and number of passengers.

Cyber Bullying

From the Konocti Unified School District

October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month. In today's digital world, it's crucial to stay vigilant and proactive when it comes to our children's online safety. Here are some steps you can take if you suspect your child might be involved:

- Notice - Keep an eye out for changes in mood or behavior, especially around their digital devices. It could be a red flag.
- Report - Most social media platforms and schools have reporting systems. Don't hesitate to use them! If it's severe, contact the police.
- Talk - Engage your child in an open conversation. Ask questions, learn the who, what, when, and why of the situation.
- Support - Reach out to peers, mentors, and trusted adults. Positive intervention can make a world of difference. Consider professional help if needed.

School Bus Safety Month

From the Kelseyville Unified School District

October is California School Bus Safety Month. School bus drivers deliver and transport students to and from school year-round. Each bus driver plays a pivotal role in the educational day of students by setting an example of professionalism and positive behavior.

School bus drivers undergo extensive training that covers important procedures, defensive driving, emergency evacuation drills, school bus safety lessons and more!

About Us

California has a three-level public education system, including the California Department of Education, county offices of education, and local school districts. Regulations, funding, and policy decisions are generally established at the state level. At the same time, the day-to-day delivery of instruction is the responsibility of the 6 local school districts throughout the county.

The Lake County Office of Education (LCOE) is the intermediate level of the public education system. LCOE provides a support infrastructure for local schools and districts.

LCOE also fulfills state mandates to approve school district budgets and LCAPs, register teacher credentials, complete employee background checks, certify school attendance records and develop countywide programs to serve students with special needs.