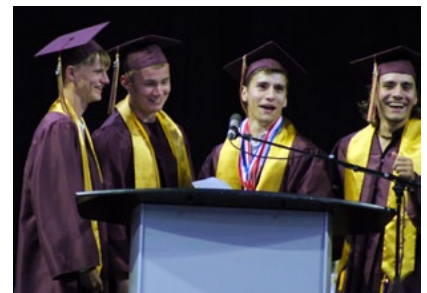


Friends & Neighbors Newsletter

Congratulations, Class of 2023!



Graduation is not just for the graduate. It takes a village, and student speakers during the June 9 Graduation Ceremony reflected on the help they have had along the way. Class Speaker Jackson Lovell asked the crowd to give a round of applause to Lakewood teachers. He said without their support, he might not have made it to graduation. Salutatorian Helena Burroughs gave credit to her parents and her brother for motivating her throughout her life. This year, American Sign Language students interpreted during the entire ceremony. Faculty speaker and wrestling coach Thomas O'Hara quoted "Rocky": "It ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward; how much you can take and keep moving forward." O'Hara encouraged students to keep moving physically, emotionally and spiritually. "Movement is the key to life," he said.

A Message from Superintendent Scott Peacock

Dear Friends and Neighbors,
It is with both sadness and a sense of adventure that I write my last letter to you before leaving Lakewood at the end of June.

For the past four years, I have valued my experiences and the relationships that we developed. From those early

days, setting up office hours at the Paddle Pub and IHOP, they have always been about relationships. You have been open in accepting me as your superintendent, and many of you have shared your stories and your views. They have been invaluable to our district and to me, personally. I have always held what is most

important to each person and group in our community close, recognizing that not everyone will agree with where we are as a district at any given point.

The nature of public service and of schools, in particular, is that there are typically

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The Washington Association of School Administrators Region 109 recognized a Lakewood administrator, student and parent during its Honorary Awards Recognition Event on April 27. From left: Bryan Toutant, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning (District Student Achievement Leadership Award); Superintendent Scott Peacock; Mia Barber (Student Leadership Award); Sukhwinder Sidhu (Community Leadership Award); Dana Krueger, School Board Director.



LAKWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"A small district
going big places"*

FIND US ON



A Message from the Superintendent

Continued from front

many perspectives and truths to navigate. Collectively, we are always trying to find the way forward as we manage our two most precious resources: our money and our children. There is no healthy way to shortcut the conversations, the debates, and occasionally the controversy. I have always believed in my heart that we are not defined by our ability to avoid disagreement, but rather we are defined by how we engage each other and work through it.

In Lakewood, we pressed on through the hardest days that, perhaps, our district has ever faced. In the end, I hope that most of you feel we came through with a better understanding of who we are as a community, and with a sense of respect for our neighbors. Students have always been at the center of our priorities, anchoring all that we do as we realize the vision of the Lakewood Compact.

After leaving, I will always look back on these four years with fondness. The students and their voices will hold a special place in my heart. I will watch Lakewood grow with great interest and pride.

Sincerely,
Scott

SCHROEDER TAKES 4TH AT STATE GOLF



Junior Kiana Schroeder took fourth place at state golf and first place at the District-level competition. The LHS girls golf team placed third at Districts. In the process, Schroeder also claimed her second straight Conference MVP title.

Community thoughts focus on safety, growth

Thank you to the 152 people who provided 85 thoughts and rated 2,277 thoughts about the future of district facilities. Our community showed concern for the rapid pace of growth and the capacity of schools to provide enough classroom space.

The word "safety" came up in more thoughts than any other word. Also rated highly, were STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) classes that help students learn innovative skills.

Participants asked for updated HVAC and comfortable learning environments. See more results and learn about the Citizens' Facilities Advisory Committee's work: <https://bit.ly/3J8A41q>



New superintendent starts at Lakewood in July

The Lakewood School Board has named Dr. Erin Murphy as its new superintendent. Murphy will take over from Superintendent Scott Peacock, who announced in January that he is stepping down.

Dr. Murphy is the Deputy Superintendent for Bainbridge Island School District. She will start in Lakewood on July 1.

"Students are at the heart of all work in the Lakewood School District," Murphy said. "I look forward to joining this amazing community and am honored and excited to serve as your next superintendent."



Dr. Erin Murphy

STUDENT NEWS

TRACK & FIELD TO STATE



Lakewood High School Track & Field qualified 13 athletes for state. This is the 36th consecutive year that LHS athletes have qualified for state.

LHS JAZZ 1ST AT FESTIVAL



LHS Jazz brought home five awards from Commencement Bay Jazz Festival, including a 1st Place award for Swingbeat and four soloist awards.

WRESTLERS TRAVEL TO STATE



Lakewood represented in both boys and girls wrestling at the state tournament. To qualify, the boys team finished fourth at Regionals.

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

In accordance with RCW 49.60, the Lakewood School District does not discriminate in employment and schools. The Lakewood School District provides Equal Educational and Employment Opportunity without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, handicap/disability, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, creed, religion, age, veteran or military status, use of a trained dog to guide or service animal by a person with a disability, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and designated youth groups. The district complies with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations to include, but not limited to, Title IX, Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, RCW 49.60 "The Law Against Discrimination," and RCW 28A.640 "Sex Equity," and covers, but is not limited to, all district programs, courses, activities, including extracurricular activities, services, access to facilities, etc. Inquiries regarding compliance procedures should be directed to Lakewood School District, 17110 16th Drive NE, Marysville, WA 98271. Attention: Title IX and Civil Rights Officer, Timothy Haines, 360-652-4500, thaines@lwsd.wednet.edu or ADA Compliance Officer and Section 504 Compliance Officer, Amie Verellen-Grubbs, 360-652-4500, averellen-grubbs@lwsd.wednet.edu.