

MAY 2021

Friends & Neighbors

Sharing news from our schools that every community member should know....

From Superintendent Scott Peacock to you.



LAKEWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

It never hurts to ask!

Early assistance helps children better access their Lakewood education

Families may wonder at the development of their newborn or toddler. Some see a clearly defined area of concern while others are wondering about overall progress.

Lakewood School District offers assessment, evaluation and intervention services to help families ensure their child is ready to access their education when public school typically begins in kindergarten.

"Maybe the child is having difficulty articulating words correctly or there is another concern that might impact a child's ability to access their education," said Dale Leach, Executive Director of Learning Support Services. For example, a challenge in speaking will also inhibit a child's ability to learn to read or participate in class. It is important for that child to get help early for their future learning success.



Brayden Rankin-Tapia works one on one with Lakewood School District's Developmental Preschool teacher Kristine Sorensen.

Education is a major life function. It often dictates life success as an adult. Addressing concerns as early as possible is key, Leach explained. Families with questions are encouraged to contact Leach at the district administration office by calling 360.652.4500. After a thorough evaluation of the concerns, those children with needs impacting their ability to access their education qualify for school-provided intervention services. Then an individualized education program is prepared. Improving academic, social and adaptive skills are typical goals. Some plans may indicate the need for physical or occupational therapy. Others may specify help with cognitive or dexterity concerns. It all depends on what the child needs. Assistance ranges from a weekly visit to a school-based therapist to school staff coaching families to work with their child on specific exercises or activities at home.

At age 3, students who qualify will attend the district's Developmental Preschool program. The majority of students currently attending this program qualify for more than one area of assistance. Staff work individually or in small groups with students practicing skills identified in each child's learning plan. "It all depends on what the child needs," said teacher Kristine Sorensen. "We may read aloud with some students and practice identifying colors or shapes with others." Read more at www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE LATEST NEWS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM LAKEWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WWW.LWSD.WEDNET.EDU



www.lwsd.wednet.edu



[www.facebook.com/
lakewood306](https://www.facebook.com/lakewood306)

LAKEWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT
PO BOX 220
N.LAKEWOOD, WA 98259

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #2
LAKEWOOD, WA

Thank you voters for April 27 levy approval

On behalf of our students, school board and all staff in Lakewood schools, please accept our heartfelt gratitude for reauthorizing the local Educational Programs and Operations Levy.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about the issues; thank you for making your voice heard; and, of course, thank you for supporting our schools. To those that did not support our request, we hope to earn your future support through the transparency of our work and the success of our students. We hope you will reach out to us to learn the answers to your questions and let us know more about your concerns.

This levy helps maintain Lakewood's quality educational programs and opportunities for our students. We fulfill a promise that extends back through generations when we maintain the funding that helps our students excel and enter adulthood ready to contribute to our community.

So many people contributed to this effort and wrapped around our schools.

Thank you Lakewood!
Scott Peacock
Superintendent

Daily in person instruction returns *K-8 students now learning 5 days per week on campus*

No one can fault Lakewood students and staff for humming a popular Beatles tune with a slight lyric adjustment to "5 Days a Week - we la - ah -ove school!". Students in kindergarten through 8th grade started learning on campus five days a week this month.

This shift was made possible by the state Department of Health cutting in half the space required by schools for social distancing in classrooms. Desks have been rearranged in classrooms to accommodate the larger class sizes. Elementary students stay among their classmates for most of the day. About half the school remains in their classroom for lunch and others sit six feet apart in the cafeteria. At the middle school, in addition to eating in the cafeteria and library, a large event tent has been added to ensure students maintain social distancing.

"Oh my gosh, we are so happy," said Sue Krause, a reading teacher at Lakewood Elementary School, of students on campus every day. "It is great to have our students together for this last bit of the school year to remind them how fun learning is and what a great place school is."

Unfortunately, confirmed COVID illness among teenagers in our community halted Lakewood High School's return. High school students will continue in the hybrid model of learning 2 days on campus with 3 days remote. The class schedule now allows 6 classes per day. Students will also be checking in online for each period during their remote learning days. The new schedule doubles the number of times teachers and high school students interact. Read more at www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news.

Bean resigns, apply to fill his School Board seat

Lakewood's longest serving School Board member Larry Bean stepped down from his post this month. Citing commitments to family and work, Bean has served more than 10 years. "My life is filling with professional and personal events that I recognize need more attention," he wrote. His School Board colleague Leah Boser will miss Bean's "fountain of knowledge" and his meaningful communication skills.

The remaining Board members are accepting applications from those interested in serving their community. Applicants must be a qualified voter of the Lakewood School District and live within the boundaries of Director District 5 which is northeast of Lake Ki encompassing 3rd Avenue NE and 188th Street NE. The individual selected will serve until the next regular School Board election in November. At that time, a director will be elected for the remainder of Bean's term which expires in 2023. For more information contact Lakewood's Administration office at 360.652.4500. Read more at www.lwsd.wednet.edu/board.



Lakewood Middle School students eat lunch together in an outdoor event tent that was added for social distancing.

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, Daniel Lee, 360-652-4500, dlee@lwsd.wednet.edu or ADA Compliance Officer and Section 504 Compliance Officer, Amie Verellen-Grubbs, 360-652-4500, averellen-grubbs@lwsd.wednet.edu.