

# Friends & Neighbors

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

From Superintendent Scott Peacock to you.



LAKESIDE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

APRIL 2021

## Lakewood High School shifts to campus learning

*All K-12 students now receiving in-person instruction each week*

Lakewood High students shifted their learning to campus this month completing the final phase of all students returning to in-person learning. The high school is following a similar schedule much like the middle school with learning on campus two days a week, then learning remotely for the remainder. Students attend classes either Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday. Wednesdays include whole class support in the morning and online learning in the afternoon. "We all share concerns about the limitations of the hybrid schedule," said Scott Peacock, Lakewood's superintendent. "These are difficult times that demand creativity to find new ways to serve our students."



Lakewood High School welcomed students back to in-person learning Monday, April 12th.

LHS senior Colton Dunc is simply happy to be back on campus. "I am so over the moon excited," he said of the shift to campus learning. "I'm really happy to get a glimpse of it again before graduation. I wasn't sure it would happen." Learning through these unprecedented pandemic times, LHS senior Maritsa Perez-Romero thinks it has helped her grow as a person and rely on herself. "Keeping a schedule and staying organized during online learning has helped me take more responsibility for my learning," she explained.

As our community begins to put the pandemic behind us, our schools and students have some catching up to do. Lakewood families were recently asked about their interest in sending their children to a summer school program. The cost of the summer school program and other opportunities for students to close the learning gap the pandemic caused would be supported by federal funds and, if approved, the Educational Programs and Operations Levy. This levy expired in December 2020. Local voters will decide if it should be restored on the April 27 ballot. Lakewood leaders continue to explore other creative ways to help students catch up academically and in their social-emotional learning. Read more at [www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news](http://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news).

## \$2.5 million in cuts set for next school year's programs

Lakewood School Board members voted this month to cut \$2.5 million from next school year's budget - 2021-22. The board is required to take this action now due to legal and contractual timelines that call for a reduced educational plan to be prepared by April 15 and any notifications to impacted staff to be provided by May 15. The reductions range from reducing classroom teachers and school nurses to cutting administrator contracts and eliminating activities for students.

Lakewood has less revenue than past years. In 2020, local voters did not approve two proposals to replace the local Educational Programs and Operations Levy. If the local Educational Programs and Operations Levy is restored, the School Board is committed to rolling back the cuts. Ballots were mailed to voters earlier this month asking the community to consider restoring the levy. Lakewood school leaders are committed to transparency in their work. Learn more at [www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news](http://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news) and [www.lwsd.wednet.edu/budget](http://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/budget).



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# Check up on school nurses

If ever there was a time for a nurse in every school, a pandemic is it. From contact tracing to COVID testing, Lakewood's nurses have done it all since the pandemic began more than a year ago.

"Before COVID, my day was filled with student care from managing plans for students with severe health concerns like diabetes or life-threatening allergies to playground bumps and scrapes," said Jessica Dunc, RN at Lakewood Elementary School. "Now I'm nearly non-stop on the phone talking to families about COVID symptoms, contact tracing, or arranging for virus testing," she said. Lakewood participates in a state Department of Health COVID testing program for school nurses to test students and staff as well as their families. "It really helps keep children in school," Dunc explained. Without the tests, children with a stuffy nose or other symptoms that may be related to COVID would miss 10 days of school.



*Jessica Dunc, Lakewood Elementary School's nurse, preps COVID tests to be sent off to the lab.*

With a negative test result and the absence of symptoms, those children can be back in school in a couple of days. Lakewood was one of the first Snohomish County school districts to join the state testing program. Along with ensuring social distancing and promoting proper hand washing, school nurses are pivotal in outfitting classrooms with personal protective equipment and training staff on how to use that PPE. Read more about Lakewood's school nurses at [www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news](http://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news).

## LAKEWOOD'S LATEST...

### LMS team tops in state TSA contest

Lakewood Middle School's Technology Student Association earned third for their website design as part of the annual statewide competition.

LMS team members are Addison Grubb, 7th grade, and 8th graders Joshua Jopling, Carson Castillo, Thomas Moody, and Olivia Echevarria. The group is advised by LMS teacher Megan Moan.

Students met in weekly virtual team meetings starting in October to develop a website that advertises a fictitious business specializing in electronic bicycles. Read more at [www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news](http://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/news).



*Lakewood Middle School's TSA team took third place at state.*

### Fans are back!

Spectators returned to Cougar sporting events in March. Each event's student participants, such as players, cheer squad members, and band musicians, are allocated colored wrist bands. Students give those wristbands to those they invite to attend. Each wristband allows entry for one person only to that specific event. Colors change for dates and events.

### Ballots due April 27 in local school levy replacement request

Lakewood voters have until April 27 to return their school election ballots. School leaders are asking to restore local education funding with the proposed Replacement of Educational Programs and Operations Levy.

The proposal helps maintain Lakewood's quality educational programs and opportunities for students. It is not a new tax. It is a restoration of a local levy requiring approval from voters. Historically, local levies have been approved by voters in Lakewood for the past 30 years, if not more. Please visit [www.lwsd.wednet.edu/levy](http://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/levy) to learn more about this ballot request.

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