

Friends & Neighbors



LAKESWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 2020

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

From Superintendent Scott Peacock to you.

Remember to Vote on February 11, 2020



Social-Emotional Learning Provides Focus

Since the start of the 2018 school year, Lakewood School District staff have been placing an increasing emphasis on the social-emotional learning of students. This focus has positively shaped the professional development and collaboration of staff and the culture of our schools and classrooms.

This work has been built upon a commitment to cultivate healthy relationships between students, as well as students and staff. Purposeful learning, presence, respect, mutual accountability and an understanding of the function of behavior are at the heart of our efforts. This work takes time and concerted effort to establish roots in everyday interactions.

Our professional learning has included recognizing conditions and triggers with students during the school day that can help us to be more proactive and supportive in ways that make disruptive or serious misbehavior less likely. We are learning how to engage students in our classrooms using methods that strengthen relationships, clarify expectations, teach appropriate behaviors and build personal responsibility. Such an approach helps us to build stronger relationships with students. It also creates a heightened sense of responsibility and ownership among students over their own learning.

This professional development is supported by some powerful curricula. We are using Second Step in grades K-5, grades 6-8 will be implemented in the fall. Second Step is a nationally recognized resource that provides tools for students and staff that promote social and emotional skills, bullying prevention, online and physical safety. In grades 9-12, Lakewood High School has made great strides through Character Strong. By building competencies that center on self-awareness, relationships, decision-making, as well as character development, this program helps to enrich our students' lives now and prepare them for life after high school.

This challenging work is about recognizing that learning is more than an exchange of information. It is about building self-discipline, accountability, understanding, and meaning alongside other people.

Conversations with the Superintendent

Meet the superintendent at the Paddle Pub Restaurant (4915 Lakewood Rd.) on Monday nights from 5-6 p.m. or at IHOP on Friday mornings from 7:30-8:30 a.m.



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Civility as a Shared Commitment

On December 4, 2019, the Lakewood School District Board of Directors unanimously approved Policy 4123 Civility. The purpose of this policy is to emphasize a value on healthy, positive, supportive relationships between all people who share our community's schools.

Other policies guide us on how to respond when negative behaviors or conflicts occur (such as discrimination, bullying or threats). This policy is different. It is designed to knit all other policies together under an affirmative statement about the values that we are committed to sustaining when we come together in service to our children.

Our new policy states, "It is the intent of the Lakewood School District to promote mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct between and among students, staff, volunteers, parents and the public in all modes of interaction. The intent of this policy is to maintain to the greatest extent reasonably possible a safe, respectful workplace for students, staff, parents, and other members of the community."

At the Community Café on October 9th, 2019, participants repeatedly said our district must continue to commit to cultivating a welcoming environment that builds a strong sense of belonging. Ensuring a culture of civility is a vital step.

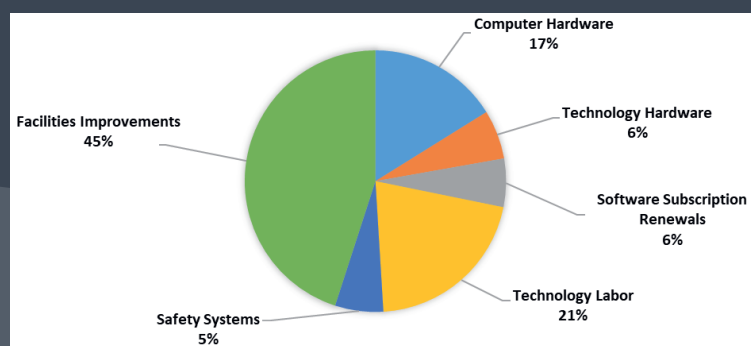
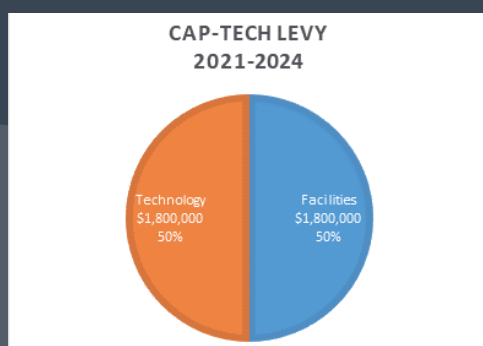
SCHOOL FUNDING PRIMER

Lakewood Outlines Technology and Capital Projects

For the past four years (2017-2020), about 80% of the funds from our Technology and Capital Improvements Levy have been used to upgrade and expand access to educational technology. Approximately 20% of the levy has been used to address facility needs. This proportion was necessary to ensure Lakewood students had access to the same digital tools and resources available to their peers in other districts. We had some catching up to do.

Over the next four years, Lakewood School District is planning to address facility and technology needs more evenly. We are projecting a split of roughly 50/50 between these two areas. A thorough review of school district needs showed that while we must continue to expand and upgrade technology for students and staff, we now have some significant maintenance and safety projects to undertake in our schools. These projects, which include replacing carpets, roofing, HVAC systems, sidewalks and curbs, will ensure that our students learn in conditions that are safe, warm and dry.

A breakdown of how we are planning to use technology and capital improvement funds between 2021 and 2024 is illustrated in the pie charts below:



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.