

# Community Link

The Newsletter of the School District of Lodi

August 2024

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*Perspective*  
 .....by **Vince Breunig**  
**District Administrator**

Welcome to the first edition of the Community Link newsletter for the 2024-25 school year. We are looking forward to continuing to move the district forward toward the priorities set for us by the community through the strategic planning process. It will be clear as you read this newsletter that those priorities continue to drive the work that is done in the district.

Our families have noticed this work as well. A recent family survey conducted by the district showed that, when asked to *rate how likely you would be to recommend our school to a friend or family on a scale of 1-10*, the average rating was an 8.08. Our families also rated us very highly in the important areas such as *my child feels safe at school* (4.29 rating out of 5), *I feel welcome in my child's school* (4.29 rating out of 5), *school staff treat my child with dignity and respect* (4.24 out of 5), and *I have at least one school staff member I feel comfortable contacting when I have an idea or concern* (4.15 out of 5). These high culture marks from our families come at a time when student outcomes continue to improve as the district earned our highest State report card in our history, highest in Columbia County, highest in CESA 5, and tied for highest in Dane County.

These results could not have happened without the support of our families and community in the referendum in the spring of 2022. Without this referendum, the district would not have the resources needed to maintain current class sizes, keep up with rising normal costs of operation, maintain the district's outstanding facilities and uphold the high quality instruction the district students enjoy.

Additional funding through referendums is needed as the district's revenue is limited under the state-imposed district revenue limit laws, meaning the district's revenue is unable to keep pace with the expenses needed to operate. By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, the state-imposed revenue limit, which was untied from inflation in 2010, will have fallen more than \$3,300 per student. With the School District of Lodi's enrollment nearing 1500 students, this equates to more than \$4.9 million in lost revenues, according to the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials.

We anticipate the District will be coming back to the community with an operational referendum in the fall of 2026. In addition, Lodi has to continue to look toward the future with our building and athletic facilities to ensure they remain viable for the future needs of the district. Ensuring this viability, both fiscally and facility wise, are also priorities that the community shared through the strategic plan.

The District looks forward to kicking off the 2024-25 school year and, in partnership with our families, continuing to work on making progress on the priorities set for us by the community. We continue to be proud of the work our students and staff are doing on a daily basis and are excited to see the gains that will be made in the coming school year.

Wisconsin Association of Business Officials. (2024, March 12). *Wisconsin School Funding: Animated Video Explainer*. Youtube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy2bueJvq\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy2bueJvq_Q)

### Building Phone Numbers

Primary School.....	592-3855
Primary School Fax.....	592-1015
Elementary School.....	592-3842
Elementary School Fax.....	592-1025
Middle School.....	592-3854
Middle School Fax.....	592-1035
High School.....	592-3853
High School Fax.....	592-1045
District Office.....	592-3851
District Office Fax.....	592-3852



### Board of Education

*Regular meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 5:30 pm closed session /6:30 pm regular session in the District Office, unless posted otherwise.*

Heather Baron.....	<i>President</i>
Terry Haag.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
H. Adam Steinberg.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
Sarah Raemisch.....	<i>Clerk</i>
Scott Bilse.....	<i>Director</i>
Sarah Ripp.....	<i>Director</i>
Theresa Valencia.....	<i>Director</i>

Board of Education members’ names, contact information, committee assignments, meeting agendas and minutes are included on the School District of Lodi’s website at [www.lodi.k12.wi.us](http://www.lodi.k12.wi.us), Board of Education link. If you do not have access to the District website, contact Maureen Palmer at 592-1060 to request this information.

**A monthly Board summary following each regular board meeting is posted on the following webpage:**  
<https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/our-district/board-of-education>

Columbia County Public Health and O’Connell Pharmacy will be offering an Immunization Clinic on Thursday, August 29 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm at the Lodi Middle School. You can scan the QR code below or use the following link to sign up your child for any needed immunizations:

<https://outlook.office365.com/book/ImmunizationCommunityClinic@oconnellpharmacy.com/>



If you have questions regarding vaccines or your student(s) is on an alternative vaccine schedule, please contact your primary provider’s clinic or further information and guidance. Please reach out to Janelle Sivam, school nurse, if you have any questions at [sivamja@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:sivamja@lodischoolswi.org)

### Asbestos Notification

Under AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act), all primary and secondary schools are required to develop and implement a plan for managing all building materials which contain asbestos. Included in the AHERA Act is the requirement to annually notify all workers and building occupants (or their guardians) of asbestos-related activities.

Beginning in 1988, all buildings owned, leased, or “under the control of” the School District were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors, with building material samples analyzed by an independent laboratory. Based on the inspection, the School District prepared and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for managing the asbestos.

Where the asbestos-containing materials are found, the District has in place an Operations and Maintenance program.

The District has accomplished the following compliance mandates regarding the administration of asbestos in school buildings:

- Environmental Management Consulting, Inc. (EMC) was contracted to be the school’s consultant for asbestos for the school year.
- The District is continuing with the Operations and Maintenance Program as designed for the School District. This ensures that all asbestos materials are kept in good condition.
- Periodic “surveillance” in each area containing asbestos has been completed every six months by our consultant. Also, the buildings are re-inspected by an accredited inspector every three years. The next reinspection is due in 2024.
- In the past year, the District has not conducted any asbestos removal activities.

All outside contractors shall contact the lead maintenance person before commencing work. Our goal at the District is to be in full compliance with asbestos regulations.

A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for review by contacting the District Office. Questions related to this plan or any other asbestos concerns should be directed to the District’s Designated Person Mr. Neal Reible.

# Interested in becoming a Substitute?

We would love for you to join us!



## Benefits of substituting:

- Your preference of schools
- Opportunities to make connections
- A flexible schedule that works around your other life commitments
- Work you can feel good about
- Weekly pay

## Available Opportunities:

- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Administrative Assistants
- Substitute Educational Assistants

## Want more info?



608-592-3851 or  
608-592-1026



lincoji@lodischoolswi.org  
neaumem@lodischoolswi.org



School District of Lodi  
115 School St., Lodi WI  
53555



## Picture Day for 2024

All student picture day will be on August 8, 2024 from 3-7 p.m.  
in the Lodi High School Gym

Please sign up your child(ren) for their portrait session at:  
[www.empirephotos.com/lodi2024](http://www.empirephotos.com/lodi2024)

**Picture Retake day is September 4, 2024**



## *Free School Supplies for Those in Need*

**Beginning Thursday, August 8, 2024**  
**Please contact Reach Out Lodi at**  
**608-592-4592**



To let them know the grades that your children attend.  
(Leave name and call back # if you get the answering machine.)

Volunteers will pack up the supplies requested for each class &  
will call you when they are available for pickup at  
Reach Out Lodi Community Store located at 601 Clark Street, Lodi

### **Don't need supplies, but would like to help those who do?**

You may give a financial gift by calling Reach Out Lodi Community Store  
or mailing your gift to:

Reach out Lodi Community Store  
P.O. Box 316  
Lodi, WI 53555

### **Important Dates:**

August 8	Picture Day 3-7pm
August 28	4K AM Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 29	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation (Parents Only) 6:00-8:30pm
August 29	4K PM, Grades K-2 Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 29	ES/OSC Sneak-a-Peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 29	MS Open House 3:30-5:30pm
September 2	No School – Labor Day
September 3	First Day of School (Gr. 4K-9)
September 3	HS Freshman & New Student Orientation
September 4	First Day of School for Gr. 10-12
September 4	District Wide Picture Retakes
September 20	Homecoming Parade & Game



# Lodi Community Action Team

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles for Youth!



## SAVE THE DATE

for LCAT's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**  
Tuesday, August 6, 2024  
5-7:30 PM at Habermann Park  
180 Fair Street, Lodi

★ **FIRST RESPONDER & COMMUNITY PARTNERS** ★

### LET'S CELEBRATE OUR LODI COMMUNITY!

Community demonstrations, booths with activities, live music, petting zoo, pickleball, karate demonstration and face painting!



### EXPLORE EMERGENCY VEHICLES!



**FOOD & ICE CREAM**  
available for purchase!



## Bring Your Family & Show Your #LodiPride!



Also, stop by the **Duck the Wall Art Show!** This art exhibit is created by School District of Lodi students ages 5-19 years old. Their art is displayed and sold (students keep 100% of their proceeds). *Please Note: Payment only by cash. An ATM is located nearby at Mobil.*



**PARKING INFO:** Park at Blessed Trinity Catholic Parish (521 Fair St) or at Lodi Elementary School (101 School St).

Connect with the Lodi Community Action Team (LCAT)!

[www.LodiAction.org](http://www.LodiAction.org)

 Lodi Community Action Team



# Food Service

Welcome back to school- yes, it's that time already!

Foodservice is looking forward to another great year with students, parents and staff. We have a lot of great things we are working on in order to shake things up for the new year. Last year I sat down with students at every school to get their feedback on their favorites, dislikes, complaints and compliments. Thank you to all the students for their valuable time and feedback. They were more surprised when we ran the foods they requested. We are communicating with everyone and it has been awesome.

We had a lot of success last year with Kids in the Kitchen-they made their own dough and pizza to take home. Kids and parents loved it. We also had success with our tastings, Harvest of the Month, Limited Time Offerings and fruit and vegetable bars at all the schools this year. We will offer another Kids in the Kitchen this year. We will continue to offer our Harvest of the Month (HOM) which features a fruit, spice and a vegetable every month. At the middle and high school we will continue to offer Limited Time Offerings (LTO'S) every month. We will have a meat based and a plant based LTO. Both of these LTO'S are created by our chef council. Our Chef council travels all over the world to find new and unique cultural foods that they can showcase at our schools. Please feel free to come in and eat with your student to check out these specials. They are listed on the high school and middle school menus.

We will also be working on some local specials with some area farmers such as the apple orchards, the little potato company and more. We are always looking for more local partners.

Please remember to look up our app Food4life which has all of our menus nutritionals.

I hope to see some parents come in and eat with their children and check us out.

Thank you so much for all of your support and feedback. We value all of it. Let's have a great year!

Diane Lueck  
Food Service Director  
Taher



The School District of Lodi announced its policy for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program or milk for split-session students served under the Special Milk Program. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The following household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free and reduced price meals or free milk if a split-session student does not have access to the school lunch or breakfast service.

***FAMILY SIZE INCOME SCALE***

For Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals or Milk

Family (Household) Size	ANNUAL INCOME LEVEL		MONTHLY INCOME LEVEL	
	Free <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	Reduced Price <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>	Free <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	Reduced Price <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>
1	\$19,578	\$19,578.01 and \$27,861	\$ 1,632	\$1,632.01 and \$2,322
2	26,572	26,572.01 and 37,814	2,215	2,215.01 and 3,152
3	33,566	33,566.01 and 47,767	2,798	2,798.01 and 3,981
4	40,560	40,560.01 and 57,720	3,380	3,380.01 and 4,810
5	47,554	47,554.01 and 67,673	3,963	3,963.01 and 5,640
6	54,548	54,548.01 and 77,626	4,546	4,546.01 and 6,469
7	61,542	61,542.01 and 87,579	5,129	5,129.01 and 7,299
8	68,536	68,536.01 and 97,532	5,712	5,712.01 and 8,128
For each additional household member add	+6,994	+6,994 and +9,953	+583	+583 and +830

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a notice to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced price meals or free milk, households must fill out the application and return it to the school (unless notified at the start of the school year that children are eligible through direct certification). Additional copies are available at the office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by agency or other program officials.

Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

To obtain free or reduced price meals or free milk for children in a household where one or more household members receive FoodShare, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Wisconsin Works (W-2) cash benefits, list the FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 case number, program name, list the names of all school children, sign the application, and return it to the school office.

For the school officials to determine eligibility for free or reduced price meals or free milk of households not receiving FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 cash benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, total number of household members, and the adult signing the application form must also list the last four digits of his or her Social Security Number or mark the box to the right of "Check if no SSN." Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.).

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price meal and free milk policy, Brent Richter, Business Manager, will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to: Sarah Raemisch, School Board Clerk, 115 School Street, Lodi, WI 53555, phone 608/592-3851 ext 5482 or email [raemisa@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:raemisa@lodischoolswi.org)

If a hearing is needed to appeal the decision, the policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the school. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals or free milk if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above, and they may reapply at that time.

Children formally placed in foster care are also eligible for free meal benefits. Foster children may be certified as eligible without a household application. Households with foster children and non-foster children may choose to include the foster child as a household member, as well as any personal income available to the foster child, on the same application that includes their non-foster children.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. Public Law 103-448 limits the release of student free and reduced price school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs. Consent of the parent/guardian is needed for other purposes such as waiver of textbook fees.

#### Non-discrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant  
Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



# Lodi C.R.E.W. and Pool

Lodi CREW and the Indoor Community Pool is the place to check out if you are looking for something to do. We offer programs for all ages and abilities. Our community collaborations bring out the best instructors and programs for the Lodi Community.

Registration is available online through our website using this link (<https://lodi.cr3.rschooltoday.com/public/home/>) or by scanning this QR code on your phone camera!



Here is a list of some of our CREW programs:

- Boot Camp
- Zumba
- Movement and Strength
- Youth Cross Country
- Youth Cheer
- Flag Football
- Volleyball Bump n Devils

**The Lodi Indoor Community Pool is the place to come for all your aquatics needs.**

Here are some of the offerings at the Pool:

- Swim Lessons (including private lessons)
- Aqua Fitness classes
- Open lap and family swims
- Pool rental opportunities (such as birthday parties and more!)
- Pool memberships
- Youth Swim Team
- Red Cross Lifeguard and WSI certifications

*The pool is also a great place to help with recovery from sports injuries for both students and adults!*

To see current and upcoming programs check us out on the school website Page: [www.lodi.k12.wi.us](http://www.lodi.k12.wi.us) click on the community tab and go to CREW or Indoor Community Pool.



**Friend us on Facebook (Lodi CREW)**



# Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Nicholas Karls – Director of Curriculum & Instruction ♦592-3851 ♦karlsni@lodischoolswi.org

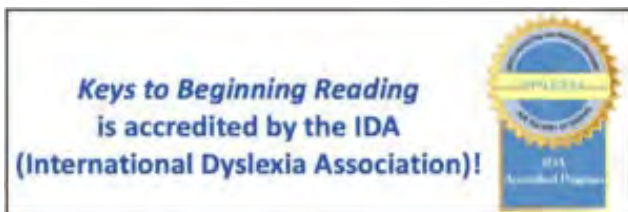
School District of Lodi Families and Community,

We sincerely appreciate your ongoing investments in our schools and steadfast support as we strive to offer an exceptional educational experience for our students. The School District of Lodi stands out as a remarkable institution that not only cultivates a dynamic academic atmosphere to inspire and involve our students but also places considerable emphasis on the Arts, Physical Fitness and Health, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics), and Career and Technical Education. In our pursuit of innovation, we are excited to share updates aligned with the key objectives of the District Strategic Plan.



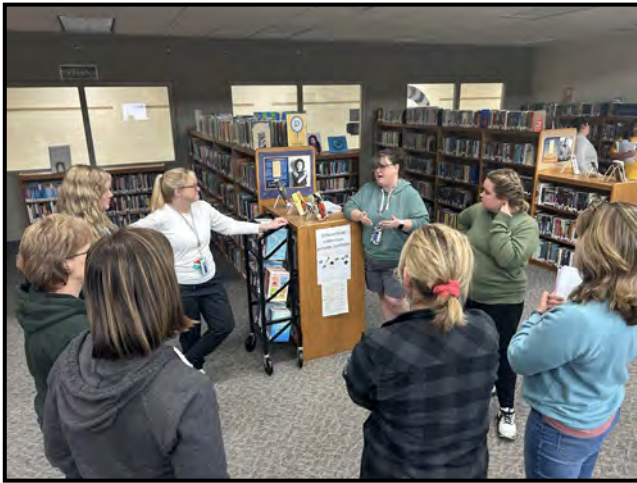
## **Pillar 1 - Preparing Our Students for the Future - Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)**

While high-quality teaching remains irreplaceable, the education sector, like many others, is exploring ways to harness A.I. to improve services. Starting next school year, the School District of Lodi will introduce Brisk, an AI-powered tool, to provide additional personalized feedback on online writing and projects for upper elementary through high school students during the revision process. This tool will complement the feedback students receive from their teacher without replacing it. It's important to highlight that not all A.I. tools align with district policies and regulations, such as data security. However, Brisk is specifically designed for the education sector and adheres to these standards, making us enthusiastic about its potential to support our students effectively. Each school building will provide guardians with further details as we approach the upcoming school year.



## **Pillar 1 - Preparing Our Students for the Future - Keys to Beginning Reading Training**

Over the past few years, the School District of Lodi has made a conscious effort to reinvest in updated high-quality instructional materials that align with current research to support literacy instruction at the primary and elementary levels. These investments have excited our teachers, who report significant student gains. To coincide with these resources, and to meet the requirements of ACT 20 (Wisconsin's new reading legislation), all 4K-5 teachers of reading (and their principals) have been busy completing a comprehensive reading training called the Keys to Beginning Reading certification. This state-approved program, which aligns with current reading research and is accredited by the International Dyslexia Association, consists of approximately 48.5 hours of training. So far, Lodi educators have completed learning sessions in the areas of reading basics, oral language, phonological awareness, and phonics. Much of the training has served as a reinforcement of the awesome strategies our educators already incorporate. In addition, we have learned some new strategies we look forward to incorporating during the upcoming school year.



*A few photos of our amazing educators engaged in their training sessions*



**Pillar 1 - Preparing Our Students for the Future - Middle School Core Reading/Writing Curriculum Investment**



Some Lodi Middle School educators will spend part of their summer getting ready to implement a new literacy program designed to support our 6th-8th grade learners! MyPerspectives Literacy was approved by the Board’s Curriculum Committee after receiving a recommendation from Middle School educators at the end of their year-long literacy program review. This review included report reviews, resource reviews, conversations with educators from other districts, etc.

**Pillar 3 - Innovative Community Connection - What Will My Child Be Learning?**

Have you ever wondered what courses are offered in the Lodi School District and what a student might learn in a course or grade level? Our educators get this question from time to time and want to remind you that they provide a resource for guardians and community members. On the School District of Lodi webpage ([lodi.k12.wi.us](http://lodi.k12.wi.us)), the district offers a section called “What Will I Be Learning” located under each individual school page. This link provides sample academic learning targets for each grade level and course.





# Student Services

Adria Schroeder, Student Services ♦592-3851 ♦schroad@lodischoolswi.org

As the summer days wind down, families everywhere are gearing up for another exciting journey - the start of the 24-25 school year! Transitioning to a new school year can be both exciting and challenging for students, staff, and families. Whether your child is embarking on their first day of 4K or navigating the halls of Middle School for the first time, transitions can bring a mix of anticipation and apprehension. Please find some resources below to help your child(ren) during this transitional time.

## 1. Start Early

Begin adjusting your child's schedule to school hours a few weeks before school starts. This can help them get used to waking up earlier and engaging in before school routines. Reestablishing bedtimes and bedtime routine can also help during this transition period to reduce stress and return to typical school year schedules.

## 2. Organize Supplies

Make a list of required school supplies and shop for them together. Involving your child in this process can build excitement and help them feel prepared. School supply lists are located on the District's website: <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/>. Go to "Our Families" at the top and select "School Supplies". If you are in need of support to obtain school supplies for your child(ren), please reach out to Adria Schroeder via email for assistance. [schroad@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:schroad@lodischoolswi.org)

## 3. Visit the School and Meet New Teacher(s)

Familiarizing your child with their new environment and new teacher(s) can ease anxiety and make them feel more comfortable. Each school will be hosting a Back to School event for students and families to visit the classroom/school and meet their teacher(s). Here are the scheduled dates and times for Back to School events at each school:

**4K AM Sneak-a-peek:** Wednesday, August 28 from 3:30-5:30 at Lodi Primary School

**4K PM Sneak-a-peek:** Thursday, August 29 from 3:30-5:30 at Lodi Primary School

**Kindergarten - 2nd Grade:** Thursday, August 29 from 3:30-5:30 at Lodi Primary School

**3rd Grade - 5th Grade:** Thursday, August 29 from 3:30-5:30 at Ouisconsing School of Collaboration and Lodi Elementary School

**6th Grade - 8th Grade:** Thursday, August 29 from 3:30-5:30 at Lodi Middle School

**9th Grade Parent Orientation:** Thursday, August 29 from 6:00-8:30 at Lodi High School

## 4. Talk About Feelings

Encourage your child to express their feelings about starting a new school year. Validate their emotions and offer reassurance that it's normal to feel excited or nervous during this transition.

## 5. Stay Positive and Celebrate Milestones

Your enthusiasm can be contagious and help your child approach the new experience with optimism. Celebrate milestones like the first day of school or completing the first week of school. This positive reinforcement can boost your child(ren)'s confidence and help them feel proud of their accomplishments.

## 6. Keep the Lines of Communication Open

Share the concerns you have about your child(ren) with their teacher(s) and include members of our student service team, if desired. Some students need additional support at the beginning of the school year to get off to a great start. Please find our student service team contact information below. If the typical beginning of the school year worries persist for your child(ren), please reach out to us!

<b>Director of Student Services</b>	<b>Adria Schroeder</b>	<a href="mailto:schroad@lodischoolswi.org">schroad@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>PS Principal</b>	<b>Amy Fassbender</b>	<a href="mailto:fassbam@lodischoolswi.org">fassbam@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>PS Counselor</b>	<b>Val Bilkey</b>	<a href="mailto:bilkeva@lodischoolswi.org">bilkeva@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>ES/OSC Principal</b>	<b>Eric Scheunemann</b>	<a href="mailto:scheuer@lodischoolswi.org">scheuer@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>ES/OSC Social Worker</b>	<b>Keri Bahr</b>	<a href="mailto:bahrke@lodischoolswi.org">bahrke@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>School Psychologist</b>	<b>Andi Rubino</b>	<a href="mailto:rubinan@lodischoolswi.org">rubinan@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>MS Principal</b>	<b>Derek Pertzborn</b>	<a href="mailto:pertzde@lodischoolswi.org">pertzde@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>MS Counselor</b>	<b>Mike Meyers</b>	<a href="mailto:meyermi@lodischoolswi.org">meyermi@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>HS Principal</b>	<b>Joe Jelinek</b>	<a href="mailto:jelinjo@lodischoolswi.org">jelinjo@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>HS Associate Principal</b>	<b>Jason Marshall</b>	<a href="mailto:marshja@lodischoolswi.org">marshja@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>HS Counselor</b>	<b>Grant Lembcke</b>	<a href="mailto:lembcgr@lodischoolswi.org">lembcgr@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>HS Counselor</b>	<b>Megan Kinonen</b>	<a href="mailto:kinonme@lodischoolswi.org">kinonme@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>Student Service Coordinator</b>	<b>Nik Franciskovich</b>	<a href="mailto:francni@lodischoolswi.org">francni@lodischoolswi.org</a>
<b>School Nurse (District Wide)</b>	<b>Janelle Sivam</b>	<a href="mailto:sivamja@lodischoolswi.org">sivamja@lodischoolswi.org</a>

Remember, each family’s journey is unique and there’s no one size fits all approach. Trust your instincts, lean on the support of your school community, and embrace the moments of growth and discovery that this new school year will bring.



**Developmental Screenings**

Developmental screenings are for children in the community who have recently turned 3 yrs. old. All children are invited to attend, particularly if there are concerns about your child’s development. You are invited to attend the screening date closest to your child’s 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Screenings will look at your child’s development in the following areas:

- Speech
- Academic/General Knowledge
- Vision
- Hearing
- Fine & Gross Motor

**Location:** Lodi Primary School  
1307 Sauk Street

**Dates:** October 4, 2024  
8:15 am - 9:30 am AND 9:45 am - 11:00 am

January 17, 2025  
8:15 am - 9:30 am AND 9:45 am - 11:00 am

March 14, 2025  
8:15 am - 9:30 am AND 9:45 am - 11:00 am



*Joe Jelinek – Principal  
592-3853 ext. 4402*

# High School Highlights

*Jason Marshall- Associate Principal  
592-3853 ext. 4403*



## Pillar I of the District Strategic Plan: Preparing for the Future

Over the past three years, our district’s Strategic Plan has guided decision-making at the high school in regard to student success. We measure student success in a variety of ways, including but not limited to standardized test scores, academic achievements, co-curricular achievements, community service, leadership and career readiness.

## ACT

Each March, 11th-graders across the state of Wisconsin take the ACT, a test that measures students’ mastery of the college readiness standards. The ACT assesses English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing. ACT scores allow students to measure their individual strengths and areas of growth. Lodi High School’s average Composite score is compared to other schools in the state of Wisconsin. According to the Lodi School District Strategic Plan, our high school goal is to continue to achieve scores higher than the state average in English, Mathematics, Reading and Science.

Year	Wisconsin State Average	Lodi High School Average
2023-2024	Composite - 19.3	Composite - 20.3
2022-2023	Composite - 19.3	Composite - 20.4
2021-2022	Composite - 19.3	Composite - 20.4
2020-2021	Composite - 19.1	Composite - 21.1



The Composite is the average of the four subjects, rounded to the nearest whole number.

## Academics

In 2023, 152 students took an Advanced Placement Exam, with 68% of these students scoring at least a 3 on their exam (Students can earn college credit with scores of 3-5) Each year, Lodi students continue to participate in the STEM program at Madison College, where they have an opportunity to earn an associates degree. And many of our seniors continue to graduate with Magna and Summa Cum Laude recognition for completed challenging coursework.



## Co-Curriculars

Each year, talented high school art students participate in the Capitol Conference Art Show and the Visual Arts Classic.



In addition, our music students won numerous awards at the state Solo and Ensemble competition last year, and more than 65 students participated in the musical Mamma Mia.



Our student athletes have had great success as well.

The Girls and Boys Track teams both earned Regional titles, and the Lodi Blue Devils won a state football championship.

### Community Service

On our annual Service Day, more than 300 of our students participate by donating their time at area businesses around the community. In addition, our sports teams and co-curriculars donate their time at community events such as the Lodi Ag. Fair, Susie the Duck Day, and the Brew-B-Que.



### Leadership

Lodi High School Leadership Council students planned volleyball tournaments and the summer Leadership Council Retreat at Devil's Lake. The SAPS (Science Applied Problem Solving) Club worked on finding solutions to challenges at school, and Link Crew helped our new 9<sup>th</sup>-graders successfully transition into high school life.

### Career Readiness

Nearly 30 juniors and seniors participated in the state's Youth Apprenticeship program, which integrates school-based and work-based learning to instruct students in employability and occupational skills defined by Wisconsin industries. Additionally, all the students at the high school participated in the annual Career Fair, where close to 70 presenters over the past two years have shared information



### *Other Information*

#### Goodbyes

This year, our school said goodbye to three dedicated staff members who moved on to new adventures. Thanks to teachers Andrew Close and Chrissy Tachick for their work in our math department. Thanks also to administrative assistant Cathy Treinen, who retired after 23 fun-filled years in the office. We will miss them all!

### High School Fall Athletics Start Dates

Sport	First Practice	First Home Event
Football	Equipment Issue: August 5 Practice: August 6	Aug. 23 - Monroe - 7:00pm
Tennis	August 13	August 27 - Jefferson - 4:00pm
Swimming	August 13	September 14 - Invite - 10:00am
Soccer	August 19	September 7 - Quad - 9:00am
Cross Country	August 19	September 7 - Invite - 9:30am
Volleyball	August 19	September 5 - Poynette - 6:45pm

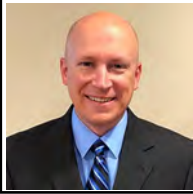
### Other Important Dates

#### Band Camp

Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9  
8:00 am - 12:00 am

#### 9th Grade Parent Orientation (Parents Only)

Thursday, August 29 in the PAC  
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm



# Middle School Maneuvers

Derek Pertzborn – Principal  
592-3854 ext. 3202

Peter Franklin, Dean of Students  
592-3854 ext. 3203



## Pillar 1 - Preparing for the Future

### *Career Awareness*

Middle school is a time when students are developing their identities, from learning about their strengths to learning about what interests them. As part of that process, one area we are beginning to develop is career awareness among our students. Creating career awareness and exploring different careers helps our students connect their education to their future.

Career awareness is more than just thinking about future jobs; it is about helping our students understand their interests, strengths, and the vast array of possibilities that lie ahead. Career awareness doesn't mean that students will select a job in middle school; rather, it is about creating awareness that there are different career pathways. It helps them to learn about careers, understand there are different paths to careers, and begin to form their identity as someone with a career.

At Lodi Middle School, we have been working to create career awareness in various ways. All students utilize an online program called Xello to explore different career paths they may be interested in. The program helps students become self-aware about their strengths and interests and creates a career profile for students with career clusters that match their strengths and interests. Xello helps students begin thinking about different career paths.

In addition to establishing career awareness for our students, focusing on Pillar 1 has helped Lodi Middle School to establish partnerships with local businesses, professionals, and community organizations. These collaborations not only enrich our students' learning experiences, but also strengthen the bonds between our school and the broader community. One example of this has been through the 6th grade career fair. The 6th grade team brought in professionals with connections to Lodi to share about their careers. Students rotated through to hear from each representative to learn a little about that career and how they can pursue a career in that area. Students appreciated the opportunity to learn about these different careers and the types of activities associated with each career.

A special thanks to the following for taking time out of their day to share about their careers with our students: Ben Kuehn and Reed Krugman - Findorff Construction, Bobbi Brown and Russ Schaefer - Lodi EMS, Kori Schroeder - Wisconsin DNR, Nate Jelinek - UW Madison Football Communications Coordinator, Heidi LeHew - Lodi Chamber of Commerce, and James Lincoln, Brenda Ayers, and Anna Stieve - Lodi Utilities.





**Pillar 2 - Nurturing the Whole Child**

***PRIDE Pass System***

During the 2023-24 school year, the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) team at Lodi Middle School implemented the PRIDE Pass System to ensure that we acknowledge positive behaviors with our students and families. The PRIDE Pass System was developed to acknowledge students who exhibit the following traits - Positive, Respectful, Integrity, Dependable, and Effort (PRIDE). Each week, each teacher selects one student to give a PRIDE Pass and send home a positive communication to the family. It is a great way for our staff to focus on all of the amazing students we have and build connections with our families.

***Student of the Month***

Another system that the PBIS team has implemented is our Student of the Month initiative. Each month, four students are selected to receive the honor of Student of the Month. Students are selected from themes such as kindness, perseverance, respect, initiative, above and beyond, and Lodi Pride. Students who receive the Student of the Month honor are provided a certificate and a yard sign to signify that a Student of the Month lives there. This has been a great way to honor our amazing students.



**Pillar 4 - District Workforce**

***Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week***

We celebrated Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week on May 6-10. Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is a great time for us to pause and reflect on the great staff we have at Lodi Middle School. Our families are so lucky to have such dedicated staff who care about each and every student. Our staff goes above and beyond for our students and brings a positive attitude each and every day. Thank you to our staff for all of their dedication and hard work. To honor our staff, we celebrated the end of Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week at Lodi Middle School with a beach-themed lunch.





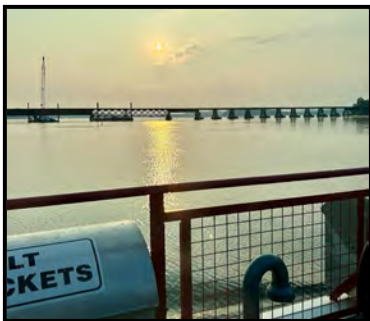
# Elementary/OSC Excerpts

By Eric Scheunemann, Elementary/OSC School Principal ♦592-3842 ext. 2102 ♦Grades 3-5

## What Does Learning Look Like at LES/OSC?

### *Pillar 1: Preparing for the Future*

*The learning opportunities we provide are the key component of our work to fulfill Pillar 1 of our strategic plan and help students gain the skills they need now and in the future.*



Some of you might wonder what learning looks like nowadays. My goal is to provide a snapshot of what learning encompasses at LES/OSC. The picture to the left is of the railroad bridge over Lake Wisconsin. It is a beautiful view, yet the railroad bridge is still under construction. I believe a healthy school is similar. We have a lot we are proud of and are doing great at LES/OSC, yet just like this bridge we continue to be under construction as we assess the impact of our practices and adjust accordingly.

Even though it seems like things often change in education, there are some constants. Some practices have and always will be an important part of preparing students for the future. We believe that a successful learning environment consists of 3 key components:

1. **Relationships** - It is essential for us to build and maintain relationships with our students so that they know that what we teach is important but not more important than them.
2. **Routines and Procedures** - It is important the routines and procedures we use in the classroom are clear so that students know and understand what is expected. We practice these routines and procedures so that we can optimize the time students have to learn.
3. **Well-Planned Lessons** - Our skilled staff take our curriculum and use their strategies to plan each lesson. Then they engage students in their learning by delivering the instruction students need while helping students take ownership of their learning.

**Classroom Instruction:** With these components in place, staff skillfully provide instruction. This instruction normally consists of a combination of whole group and small group. Whole group instruction is where the majority of our grade level content is delivered. This approach is probably familiar to most of you. It is a very efficient instructional delivery practice when strategies are utilized to help students stay engaged, think deeply, and apply their learning. One example of how staff keep students engaged during whole group instruction is to have students pause to turn and discuss with a partner a question the teacher has asked and then share out before continuing on with the content. Small group instruction is designed to meet students where they are at and challenge them to build the skills necessary for growth. Small group instruction allows students to be taught in a way that is intended to be more focused on their specific needs with specific skill teaching which accelerates their progress.



**WIN:** Almost everyday students spend 30 minutes in WIN (What I Need) time. This is targeted time we have built into the schedule that helps us provide students with more individualized instruction. We use the data we collect to help us know what to target with students. Our goal is to help every student have at least a year's worth of growth in a year's worth of time. In order to accomplish this, here are some of the specifics that make up our WIN time:

- *Intensive Intervention from a Specialist or Special Education Teacher*
- *Specialist Intervention from a Specialist or Classroom Teacher*
- *Classroom Intervention from a Classroom Teacher or Assistant*
  - *Reteaching, Pre-teaching, Directed Specific Instruction, or Extension*
    - *Math or Reading*
    - *Personalized*

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### ***Pillar 2: Nurturing the Whole Student***

***As important as Pillar 1 is, we really can't accomplish what we need to without the work we do in Pillar 2. It is the work in this pillar that establishes the foundation that allows us to connect with, care for, and challenge our students.***

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There are more practices than just these, but some of the key components of our work to nurture the whole student are as follows:

- Our social-emotional learning curriculum provided by our School Counselor.
- Morning Meeting/Closing Circle practice.
  - Morning Meeting/Closing Circle is a schoolwide classroom management practice used to address students' social-emotional learning needs on a daily basis. Every morning, teachers gather their students in a circle (for 15 to 30 minutes) to interact with one another to kick-off or end the day.
- Our partnership with the Psychotherapy Center of Waunakee to give our students convenient access to school-based mental health services.
- Our commitment to establishing and maintaining connections with our families, community and other buildings within the district.

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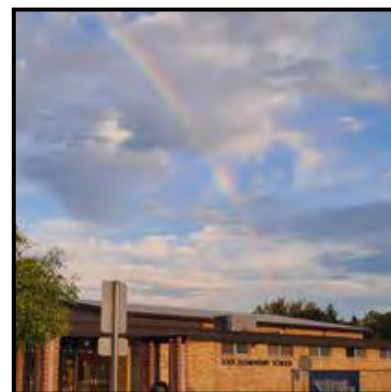
**I hope this has helped you better understand what learning looks at LES/OSC. If you have any questions about what we do please don't hesitate to reach out. In the meantime, below is how we define our learning environment. I hope it helps you be informed so you are able to explain it to others when asked because if we don't tell our story someone else will. Thank you for your ongoing support!**

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#### **LES/OSC Learning Environment Defined:**

LES/OSC is a student-centered 3rd-5th grade school with highly effective educators who value people, conversations, and growth. We focus on developing positive relationships because people matter. The work we do is important but it is not more important than the students we teach and the families we serve. We value the support and partnerships we have with our families and community. Our belief is that learning is fostered best within community, not in isolation. We leverage our partnerships to help us connect with and know our students so we can nurture every student's full potential.

We have high academic expectations but match that with the right amount of support in order to optimize student learning. Our skilled staff create and maintain a learning environment that is safe, respectful, and inclusive. We create and provide opportunities for students to engage in and take ownership in their learning while developing innovative problem solvers. We take pride in living out the district mission at Lodi Elementary School and seek ways we can give back to and serve our community.





# Primary Pride

By Amy Fassbender, Primary School Principal ♦592-3855 ext. 1002 ♦Grades EC/K4-2

As we look ahead to the 2024-2025 school year, we look back on a very successful year! We ended the year with an all school recess, spring concerts, 4K picnic, Kindergarten celebration, grade 2 parade, last day class celebrations, and more. It ended on a definite positive note!



Stride with Lodi Pride: We want to thank LCAT, our Parent Teacher Organization, and our families for all their work planning this. We earned a total of \$9,150. After all the costs to run this event and purchase t-shirts, each school got \$2,425.53. At the Primary School we earned an Ice-Cream Truck and Bouncy House for field day. Students were able to enjoy the treats on the last day. The bouncy house had to be postponed to the fall due to weather. We will be inviting back third grade students to participate in this!



Reading Pals: During the 2023-2024 school year we had a group of individuals that were part of our Reading Pal program. These women came to read and work with students in grades 4k through second grade every Thursday. It was a great way for our students to build positive relationships with other adults, practice their reading skills, and be read to. Thank you Becci Wiegand, Julie Schmidt, Diana Wickham, Karla Simons, Mary Jefson, and Linda Mueller-Bouche!

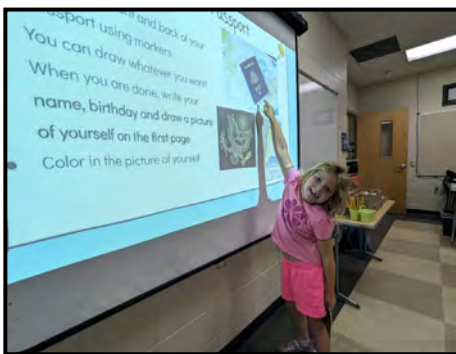


Mileage Club: We had an outstanding year for Mileage Club! During recess students typically ran or walked the .24 mile loop three times for a distance of .75 miles. Huge thanks to Chantel Steinhorst and our parent volunteers: Kim Boyer, Ashley Lochner, Kayla Kerr, Jamie Culotta, Kristine Fischer, Stephanie Jolitz, and Angel Hammer. Currently 299 students are enrolled in the Primary School Mileage Club . We had 89 percent of the school participating.

- Here are the total miles per grade:
  - Kindergarten: 189.25 miles
  - First Grade: 387.75
  - Second Grade: 267.75
  - Total Mileage is: 844.75

Summer School: Things are busy at the Primary School and High School with our Lodi Summer School Program. The first session ran from June 10 through June 27. We had about 900 students participating in a variety of enrichment as well as remedial classes. Some of the classes include Reading Palaza, Math Mania, Wrestling, Cooking, MineCraft, Science Fun, Quilting, Fishing, Golf, Soccer, Tennis, Swimming, Lego Mania, etc.

In order to run our program, we have about 70 staff members teaching and supporting students in the classrooms. We appreciate all of the returning staff coming back this year and welcome many new to our team! The majority of the classes are located at the High School and the surrounding grounds. But we also had students going into 4k and kindergarten at the Primary School to help with the transition into that building in the fall. Session 2 of will start July 8 and run through July 25.



A huge thank you again to the Lodi community for all their support this past school year. We are already beginning to plan and start preparations for the coming year!



## *Connect with Us*

Please check out our page on how to connect with us. You will find this page with all the active links at <https://www.lodi.k12.us/about/connect-with-us>



### **District Website**

[Events calendar](#), [resources for families](#), [newsletters](#), [menus](#), [community information](#), [school board information](#) and more. Each school has its own [website](#).



### **Infinite Campus**

Each parent/guardian is granted a [Parent Portal](#) account for their children. The portal gives access to grades, assignment due dates, attendance, paying fees, paying food accounts and more.



### **Community Newsletter**

It is important to us to keep the community informed. We publish three [newsletters](#) (both mailed and electronic) throughout the year that showcase our staff, our students and the important work being done across the district



### **Email, Phone or Texts**

Families can choose to be contacted via email, phone, voice or text message. In addition to school messaging, we will contact you in emergency situations such as weather closings or building emergencies. Please make sure your information in [Infinite Campus](#) is correct to ensure you receive these messages.



### **Get Involved in our Schools**

Attend music and sporting events, volunteer in the schools, attend theater events at our [Performing Arts Center](#). Use the [High School Pool](#) or check out our [Community Resource Enrichment Wellness programs](#) for all ages including senior citizens.



### **Follow us on Social Media: [FACEBOOK](#), [INSTAGRAM](#) OR [YOUTUBE](#)**

Get social with us on Social Media! This is a great way for you to see what is going on in our District, both in and outside the classroom. We also use our Facebook for school closing notice when needed.

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