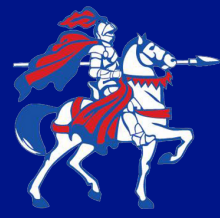
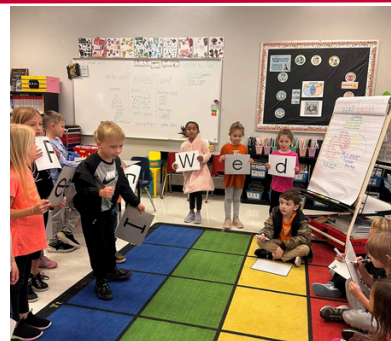




LAKEWOOD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Reimagining education, instilling community pride, inspiring future success.



Lakewood Schools Community,

As most of you already know, I was hired as Interim Superintendent in late July and am honored to be in this new position after working in this district for nearly 25 years. I love our district's families and educators and look forward to building on the fine work of so many who have come before me. It is hard to believe it has already been nearly four months since then, and only a few weeks less since we welcomed everyone back for the 2024-2025 school year. We have accomplished so much in a brief time!

The first quarter of this school year have included some great moments: Senior Sunrise; Homecoming festivities, including alumni playing alongside our Lancer marching band; honoring our 2024 Wall of Fame Inductees; Senior Golfer Lauren Griffith finishing 5th in Districts; and celebrating our Principals during National School Principals Month (October) and our Food Service workers during National School Lunch Week (October)!

On September 13, the Ohio Department of Education released its 2023-2024 Ohio Schools Report Card. Lakewood Local Schools earned a 3.5-star overall rating (4 stars in Progress; 3 stars in Achievement, Gap Closing, and Graduation; and 2 stars in Early Literacy). Certainly, there are parts of this report card that reinforce the great work our students, teachers, and principals are doing in our schools. There are also areas we must continue to improve but, as with most student data, it encourages us to dig deeper and look at more data about our students' progress and programming.

At the beginning of the school year, I communicated to our district families about where my area of focus would be, so I would like to also share these with the community at large: Rigor in Teaching & Learning; Student Behavior & Bullying; Athletic Culture; School Attendance; and Restoring Pride. I think the last area might be the most important. In our strategic plan, our Community Pride & Engagement goal area statement says that "Lakewood Local Schools creates and fosters a school community whose members are engaged, communicative, supportive, and proud to be Lakewood Lancers." I think many people in our community feel this way, but we want the majority to. I love this district. I love its students, its families, and its potential. I have been so moved by the messages of positivity and encouragement from stakeholders who love the district as I do and believe our best days are still ahead. Lakewood has so many redeeming qualities and has a bright future. I believe we are destined for great things, and I hope you feel that way too. If you'd like to read more about my focus areas, please see inside (middle section) and the [Superintendent's page](#) on our website.

As I strive to continue moving the district forward, I deeply appreciate your support. I look forward to witnessing the ongoing efforts of our faculty, staff, and students as we move through the school year, and sharing them with all of you. Let's go, Lancers!

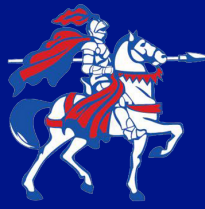
Sincerely,

Scott Coffey
Interim Superintendent
Lakewood Local Schools





Lancer PRIDE Spotlight



LHS Homecoming: Lancer Band drum majors past, present, and future! Alumni Marching Band



Each of our four buildings was selected for awards in this year's **PBIS SHOWCASE** for their work and progress in this area last year. PBIS, for those who are unfamiliar, stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports and is a comprehensive system of taught and known expectations for behavior and conduct that is woven into the very fabric of day-to-day operations. It involves incentives and recognitions and represents the constant reinforcement of desired behaviors and conduct. When students refer to "Lancer Pride," that is PBIS. Last year was the first year LMS applied for the showcase, so they were awarded the Bronze Award (the highest award for which they were eligible). Our remaining buildings were all previous Bronze Award winners, so this year they received the Silver Award (the highest award for which they were eligible). More than one building received a perfect score on the Showcase assessment. Big Congratulations to all of our teams!

Lakewood Elementary School was awarded \$5,000 through the Ohio STEM Learning Network (OSLN) Classroom Grant Program, funded by Battelle. This money will go towards materials and technology to support more hands-on STEM lessons in our library that will enhance problem solving, creativity and critical thinking.



Candace Haudenschild was selected as a recipient of the 2024 Yale Educator Award. Sponsored by the Yale Office of Undergraduate Admissions, recognizes educators from around the world who inspire and support their students to perform at high levels and to achieve excellence. She was chosen from 320 nominees representing 39 states and 24 countries. There were 75 teachers and 20 guidance counselors selected for this award.



Michelle Painter: 2024 Transcendia Excellence in Education Award Recipient



Class of 2025 Senior Sunrise



2024 Homecoming Court

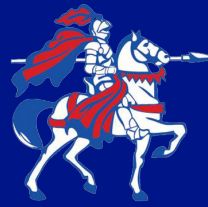


Congratulations!





District Goal Areas for 2024-25



I shared this with families very early in the school year and also provided an update after the first quarter, but I would also like to make our community at-large aware of what the Lakewood Board of Education's and my focus is for this school year. -Interim Superintendent Scott Coffey

Rigor in Teaching & Learning

Our curriculum is broad, balanced and aligned with Ohio's Revised Learning Standards. There is a clear progression of knowledge and skills that is flexible and responsive to each student's needs and interests. Our focus is on student growth, mastery of material, and achievement. My commitment is that we will be, now more than ever, measuring progress against our own philosophies and policies. I am so proud of our administrators for working to ensure that the level of rigor expected in our classrooms approximates the level of rigor prescribed by the content standards in each of our subject areas. Our instructors are creating engaging lessons that capture the individual attention of each learner and provide a high level of support to ensure deeper and more meaningful learning.

Student Behavior

Student and staff safety is a top priority in Lakewood Local School District. We take this responsibility very seriously and appreciate the partnership of students, staff, families, community members, and our first responders to keep everyone safe. We have heard concerns from parents and guardians about discipline, harassment, and bullying in our buildings. I have communicated with all families on a few occasions that these matters will be handled thoroughly and swiftly. While we clearly have a lot of work to do in this area, I am happy to report that we are already making progress, largely due to the conversations that are happening at school and at home to make sure our students know how serious and unwelcome these issues are in our district.

Athletic Culture

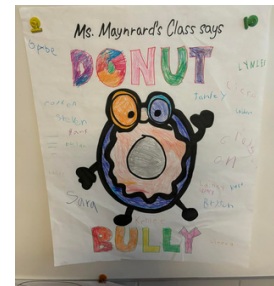
Athletics are an important part of student development, proven to support academic performance, teamwork, mental health, leadership and more. We will be focused on making sure our athletes are representing our values in every contest, our athletic department and programs are running smoothly and efficiently, and that concerns are addressed and resolved. We have instituted a weekly athletic events calendar that is posted to our social media channels. Our hope is that the more our community knows about these events happening, the more support our athletic teams will receive.

School Attendance

This year, Lakewood is raising the bar on student attendance. I believe the student attendance rate is one of the most accurate predictive indicators of student success and preparedness, and that the student absenteeism rate is among the most accurate predictive indicators that students will struggle. I have tasked all buildings with relentlessly pursuing remedies for all excessively absent students this year. We must maximize the amount of time students have with our instructors to make the school year more meaningful and productive. We cannot grow students who are not present in our classes. We are creating a simple attendance guide graphic to help families understand the importance of attendance and the seriousness of habitual truancy and excessive absence.

Restoring Pride

In our strategic plan, our Community Pride & Engagement goal areas statement says that "Lakewood Local Schools creates and fosters a school community whose members are engaged, communicative, supportive, and proud to be Lakewood Lancers." I think many people in our community feel this way, but we want the majority to. I have been pretty transparent about some of the issues that I believe are holding us back, but I have never wavered on the fact that I love this district. We will be focusing on this area of our Strategic Plan in the coming months (see more below).



Strategic Plan Updates

In addition to everything above, all of our Strategic Plan Goal Areas, will continue to be a focus. We believe that if we are accountable to these goals as a district and as a community, we will continue to improve, achievement will increase, and decisions about doing what is best for students will be clear. In the interest of further transparency, we would also like to share which of our staff members are leading the charge in these areas:

Student Experience
Patti Pickering

Staff Experience
Beth Cline

Facility & Resources Management
Scott Coffey, Glenna Plaisted

Culture of Inclusion & Belonging
Jessica Corum, Nikki Henry

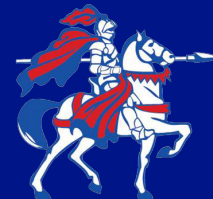
Community Pride & Engagement
Belinda Hohman

FIVE GOALS

- STUDENT EXPERIENCE 1
- STAFF EXPERIENCE 2
- FACILITY & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT 3
- CULTURE OF INCLUSION & BELONGING 4
- COMMUNITY PRIDE & ENGAGEMENT 5



Lancer Athletic Highlights



Lancer Golf: Gavin Kessler - District Qualifier and Lauren Griffith - Top 5 Finisher at the District Tournament.

Lancer Fall Senior Athletic Photo Tradition



Lancer Volleyball: Aubrey Howell - LCL Player of the year; 500th Career Dig

Josie Lynch
1000th Career Assist

Kenna Parkison
500th Career Dig

Charlee Palmer
500th Career Kill & Dig



Lakewood Cross Country Teams: Maggie Taylor and Carson Pound - Regional Qualifiers!

WALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

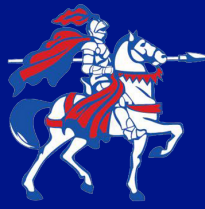
2024

Congratulations to the 2024 Wall of Fame inductees! The following were honored during a reception and ceremony on Friday, September 6, prior to the football game: Band booster/jack-of-all-trades David Dernberger, and three-sport star Scott Cummins.





District Finances



The District's year end was June 30, 2024. Below is a breakdown of general fund cash basis revenues and expenditures (our operational costs) for FY2024.

District General Fund Revenues

Property (Real Estate) Taxes	\$17,368,723
Tangible Public Utility Taxes	\$2,299,353
Unrestricted State Funding	\$1,872,580
Restricted State Funding	\$4,653,759
Property Tax Allocation	\$583,013
All Other Operating Revenue	\$1,975,608
Other Financing Sources	\$16,206
TOTAL REVENUES FY24	\$ 28,769,242

District General Fund Expenditures

Personnel Salaries	\$14,273,721
Personnel Retirement/Insurances	\$5,760,131
Purchased Services	\$2,857,600
Materials & Supplies	\$896,750
Capital Outlay	\$872,232
Debt: Principal and Interest	\$287,265
Other Objects	\$1,108,831
Transfers Out	\$782,837
TOTAL EXPENDITURES FY24	\$26,839,367

DID YOU KNOW?

- This past summer, the District expended \$72,114 on the June summer school program. These expenditures were paid with federal COVID-19 ESSER funds.
- Last school year, the District expended \$2.36 million in federal awards. Of that amount, \$797,000 was for Food Service activities, \$346,600 was for COVID-19 ESSER activities, \$238,000 was for K-12 School Safety funding, and \$978,000 was for Federal Title programming.
- Last school year, the Food Service department served 172,628 total lunches, which included 12,072 lunches to Eagle Wings Academy students.
- Last school year, the Transportation department transported an average of 1,018 students per day.

Recently, the Lakewood Local School District Treasurer's Office was presented with the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the June 30, 2023 Financial Reports. These certificates are the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment for the school district and its management. These reports are available on our [website](#) (Lakewood Local Schools - District - Treasurer).



If you have questions, please reach out to the District's Treasurer, Glenna Plaisted, at (740) 928-1928 or gplaisted@lakewoodlocal.k12.oh.us.



LAKEWOOD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

525 E Main St
Hebron, OH 43025
740-928-5878

Planning Ahead

Fall Learning Resources

- Camp Invention Activities for Families:
<https://www.invent.org/programs>
- The Works Event Calendar:
<https://attheworks.org/calendar-events/>
- Highlights for Kids:
<https://www.highlightskids.com/>
- Preparing for College:
<https://www.lakewoodlocal.k12.oh.us/schools-page/lakewood-high-school/counseling-office/preparing-for-college>
- IXL (LMS student resource to practice math, social studies, science and ELA): <http://ixl.com/> (and login)

Key Dates for 2024-25 School Year

- November 27-Dec. 2: Thanksgiving Break
- December 23-January 6: Winter Break
- January 20: No School (MLK, Jr. Day)
- February 17: No School (Presidents' Day)
- March 14: No School (Records Day)
- March 24-28: Spring Break
- April 18: No School (Good Friday)
- May 23: Graduation (6:30pm)
- May 26: No School (Memorial Day)
- May 29: Students' Last Day
- Late Start Dates:
 - January 29, February 26, April 30

www.lakewoodlocal.k12.oh.us/calendars.aspx



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