

## Narrative

This section allows schools and districts to share highlights, achievements, and other important information about programs, activities, and services that are offered in their own words. Please note that the narrative is optional, so only categories in which the district chose to share information will be displayed. If there are questions about the information provided in the narrative section, please contact the school or district directly.



### Mission, Vision, Theme:

The Lenape Regional High School District (LRHSD) serves eight municipalities. Encompassing an area of 350 square miles, the Lenape District is the largest school district in Burlington County. The mission of the Lenape Regional High School District, a leader in progressive education, is to develop physically and emotionally healthy students who excel in an ever-changing world.



### Awards, Recognition, Accomplishments:

All schools were designated a No Place for Hate by the Anti-Defamation League of South Jersey and Philadelphia for the 12th consecutive year. The program helps schools to challenge anti-Semitism, racism, homophobia and all forms of bigotry. LRHSD has the distinction of being the first complete No Place for Hate school district in New Jersey. LRHSD is proud that it had multiple National Merit Commended Scholars and Semifinalists who have applied for finalist status.



### Courses, Curriculum, Instruction:

Through more than 236 course offerings, 26 AP courses and 68 College Acceleration Program courses, 43 at Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC) and 25 at Rowan University (RU), complemented by summer enrichment programs, the Lenape District offers academic tracks to meet every student's needs. In the 2023-24 school year, 942 students district-wide applied for RU and RCBC dual credit; on average, each student earned 7.9 college credits.

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### Sports and Athletics:

Sports Offered: Baseball (Boys), Basketball (Boys & Girls), Bowling (Boys & Girls), Cheerleading (Boys & Girls), Cross Country (Boys & Girls), Field Hockey (Girls), Football (Boys), Golf (Boys & Girls), Gymnastics (Girls), Lacrosse (Boys & Girls), Soccer (Boys & Girls), Softball (Girls), Swimming (Boys & Girls), Tennis (Boys & Girls), Track and Field - Spring (Boys & Girls), Track and Field - Winter (Boys & Girls), Volleyball (Boys & Girls), Wrestling (Boys & Girls)  
LRHSD offers over 25 Athletic Programs; 140 State Championships won by LRHSD teams.



### Clubs and Activities:

During the 2023-24 school year LRHSD students participated in a variety of clubs and activities as each school offers over 60 clubs that appeal to a wide range of student talent and interest. LRHSD students earned awards and recognition at County, State and National Levels. Some highlights include a Band State Championship, Band selections and the selection of dozens of students competing at the state and national levels in competitive clubs such as DECA, FBLA, and FCCLA.



### Before and After School Programs:

As a district with a wide breadth of special education offerings, LRHSD has worked to develop innovative programs to meet the specific needs of special needs students and to develop life-long job skills. The district is also proud to offer additional learning opportunities for all students in the form of the Extended School program and summer classes to help students prepare for the SATs, college and their math classes. The district also offers various forms of after school tutoring.

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### Staff and Professional Learning:

The LRHSD faculty takes part in professional development through Research for Better Teaching (RBT), Understanding by Design (UbD), and Common Planning Time. These programs are dedicated to improving and building upon classroom instruction. Common Planning Time has been developed in a teacher's schedule to maximize collegial opportunities such as analyzing data, discussing pedagogy, and designing assessments while focusing on the results.



### Postsecondary Information:

During the 2023-24 school year, 942 students earned 7283 college credits through the dual credit program. LRHSD is proud to offer the PSAT to all students in grades 9, 10, and 11, as the district believes that opportunity better prepares them for the SAT. LRHSD's success as a high-achieving district is exemplified by its 96.2% graduation rate, its SAT scores consistently above state and national averages, and its 75.5% of graduates attending over 236 colleges and universities.



### Student Supports and Services:

LRHSD has programs to meet the specific needs of special needs students and to develop life-long job skills including: morning cafes, in which students develop hands-on experience making, selling, and serving cafe patrons; Wii Tournaments between each of the schools; special holiday events and the Annual Special Needs Prom. Additionally, LRHSD Special Education program successfully placed dozens of students in nearly 55 different work sites, providing students with job development opportunities, through High School innovative Transitions to Adulthood program

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### Student Health and Wellness:

The LRHSD believes that a safe and caring environment is vital to an individual's optimal growth and well-being. Programs are offered to encourage students to live healthy lives through physical activity, make responsible life decisions, and self-assess their personal decisions to improve their wellness. These programs include: the Defy the Issue campaign, No Place for Hate initiative, Heads Up-Eyes Forward, Step Up & ID HIB and comprehensive Health and Physical Education Curricula. Each school has created a wellness room that students can visit during the day.



### Parent and Community Involvement:

LRHSD fulfills its mission through the cooperation among a host of stakeholders including administrators, teachers, parents, municipal officials, and community members from the sending townships' K-8 school districts. All schools utilize email, Genesis Gradebook, a mobile app, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram to connect with families. Each school also has parent volunteer groups that are links from school to community. Several booster clubs also support and promote athletics and activities.



### Climate Surveys:

Is a Climate Survey Used: Yes; Who is surveyed: Students, Parents, Teachers.

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### Facilities:

Lenape High School opened in 1958 on a 53-acre plot of land in Medford, NJ. Situated on a parcel of land in the southeastern end of Medford Township, in the heart of the Pinelands, Shawnee High School was dedicated in 1971. Cherokee High School was opened on a 71-acre site in Evesham Township in September 1975. The Seneca High School building is 21 years old and located in the Pine Barrens National Preserve. The District also has the Sequoia Alternative Program and Transitions to Adulthood Program, both are located in Evesham Township.



### School Safety:

The Safety and Security of all LRHSD students and staff is a top priority which is evidenced by the following security initiatives already in place at all LRHSD schools. SRO's with marked vehicles are assigned to each school reinforcing a highly visible police presence. All schools have Security staff assigned to assist with maintaining a safe school environment. Exterior doors are secured and locked during the school day. Main office vestibules limit direct entry into the school. All schools are equipped with 24/7 interior and exterior surveillance systems. Lockdown buttons and a phone system are installed at all schools to initiate and expedite lockdown procedures. Portable radios are assigned to key personnel. Interior door locks were installed to expedite the lockdown process and exterior doors have intruder film. In conjunction with the NJDOE guidance, each school implemented Threat Assessment teams to investigate reports and provide appropriate interventions and supports.



### Technology and STEM:

Through a referendum the LRHSD was able to create three new programs: Metalwork, welding and fabrication, Automotive with an ASE certification and Construction, Building and Carpentry. These career pathways will allow students to gain hands on experience in a possible career of their choosing. The LRHSD has also partnered with Project Lead the Way a nationally recognized STEM program to offer a pre-engineering pathway where students work collaboratively in a cohort to take an engineering elective each year of their high school experience. This will expose them to different facets of a STEM related career. The LRHSD has two district Robotics teams which compete locally and nationally. Members of the LRHSD Robotics teams report that the project based problem solving design of each challenge deepens their understanding of the concepts behind the designs necessary to compete.

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Consistent school attendance is one of the key components of student achievement. Prolonged or repeated absences excused or unexcused, from school or from class, deprive students of the educational and classroom experiences deemed essential to learning. The LRHSD fosters high student attendance by forging strong partnerships with students and families. The LRHSD routinely monitors student attendance and implements supports and interventions when appropriate to enhance student attendance.

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### Other Information:

LRHSD has a wonderful partnership with local law enforcement agencies. LRHSD has a School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to each school. All of the SROs play a vital role in the daily safety and security of all students, staff and visitors at each school. LRHSD has a 4-Day Rotating Schedule. Measurable outcomes include increased instructional time, improved average daily attendance, an increase in average daily punctuality and a decrease of discipline incidents and suspensions. The District's high expectations for its students is one of the ingredients to its success. Each high school celebrated students' college acceptances in a variety of ways as a strategy for raising expectations. The school community takes great pride that students are Prepared to Succeed. <https://www.lrhsd.org/our-district/strategic-planning/state-of-the-district-presentation/prepared-to-succeed-video> Active community involvement is a hallmark of the Lenape District. LRHSD also appreciates the consistent and generous support it receives from its communities. Through its award winning television program, LDTV, the district provides high quality community-oriented programming from athletics to performing arts.