

Friends & Neighbors Newsletter

Superintendent's Message: Focusing on our future

We are having a wonderful year in Lakewood!

Since October, 61 community members have been working collaboratively to create a strategic direction plan. This document will serve as a guide so that we can focus on specific areas of opportunity and growth over the next five years. We look forward to finalizing this plan and hope to bring a final draft to the school board this May.



Dr. Erin Murphy,
Superintendent

With a focus on high levels of student learning, we have seen our students shine both inside and outside of the classroom.

From writing celebrations, presentations and concerts, performances, skill demonstrations, and award ceremonies — recognizing and celebrating learning is a daily occurrence.

In addition, many of our middle and high school students are active in extracurricular athletics. I invite you to join us in

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Capital update: Lakewood awarded \$538,885 to increase energy efficiency

As part of its commitment to improve energy efficiencies and reduce utility costs, Lakewood School District applied for, and received, a grant from the WA Department of Commerce and an energy incentive from Snohomish PUD.

The total energy-efficiency funding of \$538,885 will be used to install energy-efficient LED lighting at Lakewood Middle School and Lakewood High School's Dick Cardinal Stadium.



Energy-efficient LED lighting at LMS will cut electricity costs and help meet WA Clean Buildings Performance Standards.

The grant award of \$293,663 from the Department of Commerce was incentivized by Snohomish PUD with a contribution of \$245,222.

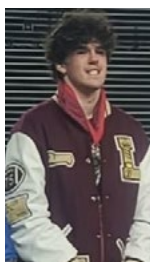
GRANTS FOR 3 SCHOOL BUSES

Lakewood has ordered three new electric school buses with \$1.6 million in grants from the Washington Department of Ecology. The first bus was delivered in March with another bus arriving soon.



Eleven LHS wrestlers competed at state.

Wrestler places 2nd at state



Jimmy Conklin earned second place at the 2025 State Wrestling tournament in February.

BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICT CHAMPS



Our first-time Boys Basketball District Champs competed at state after an exciting road to the tournament! Caleb Greenland broke the school record for points scored in a season and Evan Stacey broke the record for assists. Lakewood shocked the state's top-ranked 2A team by handing previously unbeaten Lynden its first loss of the season. Nash Espe was WIAA Athlete of the Week after scoring 25 points during that game. Anthony Wiederkehr was named NWC Boys Basketball Coach of the Year.



LAKEWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"A small district
going big places"*

FIND US ON



Dr. Murphy: Grants for new school buses, lighting upgrades

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celebrating our 11 state-qualifying wrestlers (Jimmy Conklin earned 2nd), and our boys basketball team, who won the district championship and played in the state tournament.

We are grateful for the generous support of our taxpayers and continue to work to be good stewards of public dollars.

In addition to strong fiscal management, we regularly apply for grants. I am pleased to share that we will be able to add three new electric school buses to our fleet this year through a grant from the Department of Ecology.

We will also be able to offset the cost of some of our lighting efficiency upgrades at the middle school and high school with support from a grant from the Department of Commerce and Snohomish County PUD incentives.

All my best,

Erin



Top: Big buddies and little buddies at Cougar Creek Elementary read together after spending time making a craft. Bottom: Lakewood Elementary second graders learn the process of writing before a family Writing Celebration.

Elementary schools lean in for literacy

“Writers, go write!” student teacher Sean Fitzsimons encouraged second graders at Lakewood Elementary.

While crafting their stories, they went through the writing process of brainstorming, planning, drafting, editing, and even designing their own covers.

Students also hone their skills in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

At Cougar Creek Elementary, fourth-grade big buddies read books with their first-grade little buddies.

The partnership gives students practice reading in a relaxed atmosphere.



KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSES

Will your child be 5 by Aug. 31? Kindergarten registration for the 2025-26 school year has begun at our elementary schools and open houses will take place on May 14 at 5 p.m. See our website for more information on what to bring or give us a call at 360-652-4500 — we're happy to help!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **April 29:** District Band Concert, 7 p.m., LHS
- **May 2-3:** FFA Plant Sale, LHS
- **May 2-3; 9-10:** “Cinderella,” 7 p.m.
- **May 28:** LHS Band Concert, 7p.m.
- **June 5:** LHS Choir Concert, 7 p.m.

HEART OF LAKEWOOD NOMINATIONS

Know someone who represents the Heart of Lakewood? Complete a nomination form for our community service award on our website:



LHS MUSIC WOWS JUDGES AT REGIONALS, JAZZ FEST



Lakewood High School Wind Ensemble received the highest score, Superior 1, at the Regional competition of Washington Music Educators Association in March. LHS Concert Choir received the second highest score of Outstanding.



Listen to
more!



The LHS jazz band, 11th Avenue, swung their way to 1st in their division at Commencement Bay Jazz Festival. The jazz choir, Swingbeat, placed 2nd. Lucas Carlson and Jaylei Kellar received solo awards.

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, Timothy Haines, 360-652-4500, thaines@lwsd.wednet.edu or ADA Compliance Officer and Section 504 Compliance Officer, Lissan Wipfli, 360-652-4500, lwipfli@lwsd.wednet.edu.