Lakewood Board of Education
200 Ramsey Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701 Main Office: (732) 364-2400 Fax: (732) 905-3535

Laura A. Winters, Ed.D, Superintendent of Schools / **Kevin Campbell**, Business Administrator/Board Secy.
Kristie Sussino, Assistant B.A. /Assistant. Board Secy.

August 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I extend a warm welcome to both new and returning families.

As we embark on another academic journey together, I am filled with excitement for the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead for our students. Our dedicated team of educators, staff, and administrators is committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive learning environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

The Lakewood School District values the diversity of our community and celebrates the unique strengths and talents that each student brings to our schools. We are committed to fostering a culture of respect, empathy, and understanding, where every individual feels valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential.

Throughout the school year, we will continue to uphold our high standards of academic excellence while also prioritizing the holistic development of each child. From engaging classroom instruction to enriching extracurricular activities, we offer a wide range of opportunities for students to explore their interests, discover their passions, and develop critical skills for success in an ever-changing world.

As partners in your child's education, we encourage open communication and collaboration between home and school. We believe that by working together, we can create the best possible learning experience for our students and ensure their continued growth and achievement.

I invite you to take an active role in your child's education by attending school events, volunteering in the classroom, and staying informed about school activities and initiatives. Your involvement and support are invaluable to the success of our students and our school community as a whole.

To help you increase your child's capacity to learn, here are some tips:

- Read to your child – and read with your child – at least 20 minutes every single day.
- Ask your child to picture what is happening while you read. Ask what sounds and smells might be in the story.
- Ask your child to give you feedback about what you have read – by talking about it, writing about it or drawing pictures about it.
- Use props when you read. This makes the story more interesting for you and your child.
- Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework.
- Make sure the materials your child needs, such as paper, pencils and a dictionary, are available.
- Be positive about homework. Tell your child how important school is, and remember that your child will mirror your attitude toward academics.

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- Stay informed. Talk with your child's teacher and make sure you know the purpose of homework and what your child's class rules are.
- Work with teachers and administrators to stay informed about the options and opportunities available for your child as he or she advances through the grades.
- Educate yourself. Find out the requirements, choices, and processes involved in planning your teen's middle and high school programs with your child's teacher. Your teen will need your assistance and advice.
- Plan carefully. Certain programs enable students to meet entry requirements for post-secondary programs or acquire the knowledge and skills to enter directly into a career. Keep future goals in mind when making course selections with your child.
- Encourage your teen to think about the educational path they will need to follow to pursue the careers they are considering. Will they need to take certain subjects in high school to keep these options open? What kind of post-secondary education will they need? Where is the program offered and how long does it take to complete?
- Prepare for life after high school. If your teen intends to enter a two- or four-year college or tech program after high school, check the calendars of these institutions for admission requirements to plan his or her senior high school program accordingly.
- Even as an adult, career decisions can be overwhelming. Encourage your children and give them the time and space to make their own decisions.
- Ask your teen about the kinds of careers they are considering and do not worry if this changes on a frequent basis. They are thinking things over and imagining themselves in different roles, and that is a good thing.

For your convenience, I have attached the Lakewood School District's Dress Code and Electronics Policy. Please note that the High School Dress Code Policy **is different** from the K-8 Dress Code Policy.

Book bags or backpacks that are not clear will not be allowed on school property.

On behalf of the entire Lakewood School District team, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. Together, we will make this school year a memorable and rewarding experience for all.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful start to the new school year!

Warm regards,

Dr. Laura A. Winters

Dr. Laura A. Winters
Superintendent of Schools

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Attachments:

2025-2026 School Calendar
2025-2026 Lunch Application
2025-2026 District Testing Schedule
Sharing Information with Medicaid/NJ Family Care
Dress & Grooming - Policy #5511
Elementary Dress Code Implementation
Dress Code - High School Students
Medication District Policy
Medication Permission
Media Release – Parent Consent Form
Health Screening Letter
Consent for Depression A& Anxiety Screening Form
2025-2026 Social & Sexual Health Letter
2025-2026 Social & Sexual Health Packet with Opt In Form
Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers & Resources
Use of Electronic Communication & Recording Devices (ECRD)
Electronics Policy
Vaping Policy
Substance Abuse Policy
AHERA Annual Notification
Policy #5530 Substance Abuse
Policy #5530.04 Administering an Opioid Antidote
Policy #5533 Student Smoking
Policy #8462 Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children
Policy #9242 Use of Electronic Signatures
2025-2026 Challenge Day Form (LHS ONLY)
2025-2026 District Code of Conduct