



GATOR CHRONICLE

Lakewood Elementary School

Vol. 20

September 2025

Kelli Oertling, Principal

Amanda Morgan & Holly Thompson, Assistant Principals

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Principal's Message:

Our school year is off to a wonderful start! Just as the ocean has depth and rhythm, we are setting the tone for success by focusing on clear routines and procedures that help our students thrive. Please continue to support us by reminding your children of Lakewood Elementary's expectations for student success: **be responsible, be respectful, and be safe.**

In August, our students dove deep into creating their **hopes and dreams** for the year. This important activity, connected to the 7 Mindsets' first focus, *Everything is Possible*, helps them dream big and set goals for their journey ahead. We encourage you to ask your child about the hopes and dreams they set, and throughout the year, follow up to see how they are progressing toward their goals.

Together, let's continue to create ripples of learning that inspire growth and possibility. Your support and partnership are invaluable, and I look forward to working with you to ensure **Success and Nothing Less for All.**

#RippleBeginsWithMe
#SuccessNothingLess

Kelli Oertling,
LWE Principal



Don't forget to
follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550061518511>

Parent Teacher Organization

PTO is diving in at Lakewood Elementary!

As we ease back into our school routines, PTO is busy planning a wonderful year ahead! We look forward to hosting our World's Finest Chocolate sale in October, the Fun Run in March, and Spring Fling in May!

Our PTO membership drive is currently underway. There is no obligation from you when you join; it is simply an easy way to stay updated on our fundraisers and events.

Although you can join PTO at any time, joining before Friday, Sept. 26 may earn your student a pizza party! The class in each grade level with the most PTO members by Sept. 26 will win. Our current leaders are LeBlanc, Landry, Walker, Knobloch, and Boudreaux.

Simply send in your \$5 membership fee (cash or check made out to LWE PTO) and completed form in an envelope labeled PTO, and remember, all funds raised go directly back to LWE faculty, staff, and students.

PTO also handles uniform orders throughout the year. We have cotton t-shirts and pencil pouches in stock year round; email us at lwegatorspto@gmail.com, and we will fill your orders as quickly as we can.

Mark your calendars for our fall fundraiser, our World's Finest Chocolate sale. It kicks off in October; more information will come home soon!

As always, thank you for your support of PTO, and cheers to a great year!



EARN FOR YOUR SCHOOL WITHOUT SCANNING!

Now you can earn cash for your school every time you buy Box Tops products at Walmart – no scanning required! Just follow these simple steps to connect your Box Tops and Walmart accounts.



Scan the QR code above to access the LWE PTO Facebook page for news and updates.

Don't forget to go to the BoxTops app and upload your receipts. If you shop at Walmart, you can link your Walmart account to BoxTops and our school will automatically be credited for your purchases!

HOW IT WORKS:

STEP 1
Download the Box Tops app or update to the latest version. In the app, go to your profile, then tap on "Connected Accounts" and select "Walmart."

STEP 2
When prompted, sign in to your Walmart account. (If you don't have a Walmart account, you'll be prompted to create one). Make sure to save a payment method to your Walmart account.

STEP 3
Your Walmart account is now connected to Box Tops, so your qualifying purchases made in-store and online with a saved payment method will earn for your school! Box Tops will be credited after you receive your Walmart items.

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS APP YET? GET IT AT BTPE.COM/APP

CONNECT YOUR ACCOUNTS NOW FOR THE EASIEST WAY TO EARN

“Success and Nothing Less for All”

eBooks Available to Use at Home

The Lakewood Library has a collection of over 1000 eBooks and audiobooks that students and families can use any time from home and the collection is still growing!

Students can log into the library catalog (Follett Destiny Discover) through Clever and click on an eBook to read. That will take them directly into MackinVia.

There is a MackinVia app available to install on cell phones and tablets as well. If you want to log in as a guest to view the books available, you can go to www.mackinvia.com and locate our school by typing in Lakewood Elementary, Luling.

Guest Username: lwe

Guest Password: gators

Some Follett eBooks are also accessible through MackinVia, but may require an additional login. Same username and password.



Book Fair Time!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to the Lakewood Library **September 22-26**. Students will be attending the Book Fair with their classes. Parents, grandparents, and other community members are also welcome to shop at the Lakewood Book Fair after signing in at the office.



The Book Fair will be open from 7:40 am -2:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. **The Book Fair will remain open after school Wednesday, September 24, until 5:30pm.** On Friday, Sept. 26, the Book Fair will close at 1:35 pm.

You can also support our school by shopping the book fair online and sharing the link with friends and family. There is free shipping available with a purchase of \$25 or more. Shop online here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/lakewood>

Lakewood's Mission

The mission of Lakewood Elementary School is to ensure success and nothing less for all.



Lakewood's Vision

Lakewood Elementary School empowers all students to develop skills necessary to grow academically, socially, and emotionally in order to achieve success in our constantly changing world.

Lakewood's Beliefs

We believe ...

- all students can learn, achieve, and succeed.
- in setting high expectations for all.
- in creating an environment that is safe and inviting.
- in providing an inclusive climate where all experience diversity, empathy, belonging, and respect.
- in promoting a culture of dignity where all are valued as individuals with unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.
- our school, community, and families are collaborative partners in the education of our students.

Lakewood's Daily Expectations

- 1. Be Responsible**
- 2. Be Respectful**
- 3. Be Safe**

Uniform/Sweatshirt Donations

If you have any gently used uniforms that your child outgrew and you are no longer using, please consider donating them to our school. As the weather gets colder, our need for LWE sweatshirts or plain maroon sweatshirts will especially increase.

“Success and Nothing Less for All”

Migrant Education Services Available!

Any child, ages 3 through 21, who moves with parents or guardians to seek or obtain temporary or seasonal employment in agriculture or fishing-related activities is eligible for the Migrant Education Program. Families qualify if they have moved to work in traditional crops such as: vegetables, dairy, poultry, livestock, fishing and shrimping, and/or timber.

Migrant Education provides student advocacy within the school district's educational program as well as supplemental educational and supportive services.

If you believe that your child might qualify for this program and are interested please call the school secretary or stop by the office to complete the Migrant Survey.

St. Charles Parish Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability.

¡Servicios disponibles para la Educación de Migrantes!

Cualquier niño entre las edades de 3 a 21 años, cuyos padres o representantes legales buscan obtener un empleo temporal o de estación en agricultura o en actividades relacionadas con la pesca, es elegible para el Programa de Educación del Migrante.

Las familias califican si se han movido al área para trabajar en las cosechas tradicionales como las siguientes: vegetales, lecherías, aves de corral, ganado, pesca, camarones y madera.

La Educación del Migrante provee ayuda dentro del programa educacional del distrito, como también servicios educacionales suplementarios y servicios de apoyo.

Si usted cree que su hijo/a puede calificar para este programa y usted está interesado o, por favor llame a la secretaria de la escuela o visite la oficina para completar la Encuesta del Migrante.

Las Escuelas Públicas de la Parroquia de St. Charles no discriminan por raza, color de piel, nacionalidad, orientación sexual y/o discapacidad

Please remind students to wear tennis shoes on Physical Education days.



Counselors' Corner

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year. I hope the beginning of the school year has been a smooth and positive transition for everyone.

Our counseling department is here to support your children with their social- emotional wellness. We provide these supports through morning meetings, small groups, individual counseling, and guidance lessons. Lesson topics can include, but not limited to coping skills, gratitude, and self-control.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sherrie Pepper, School Counselor
Katie Lebouef, School Counselor
Kristen Centanni, Mental Health Professional



Scan the QR code to access the LWE Parent Counseling Corner

AHERA MANAGEMENT PLAN NOTICE

Notice: In 1986 all asbestos materials were identified in all school buildings. A management plan was developed for each school as per the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). The management plan is located in a binder in the main office of each school. The binders are available for review upon request.

Since the plan was developed, most of the asbestos has been removed. In a few buildings, some floor tile still remains that contains asbestos. All of the schools meet the health requirements that pertain to the regulation. If you have any questions concerning this topic, please contact Kevin Barney, Director of Physical Plant Maintenance at 985-331-3600 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

As required by law, information regarding Parental Access to Instructional Materials and the Louisiana Parents' Bill of Rights can be found at www.stcharles.k12.la.us under the FOR COMMUNITY-Legislative compliance page.

“Success and Nothing Less for All”

Chromebook Care

1. Keep your Chromebook on a flat surface like a table or a desk. (Don't leave it on the floor where someone could step on it.)
2. Don't pile things on top of your Chromebook.
3. Make sure there isn't anything on the keyboard when you close your Chromebook.
4. Keep food and drinks away from your Chromebook and make sure your hands are clean. (Crumbs and liquids are very bad for your Chromebook and can cause it to stop working properly.)
5. Be careful how you carry your Chromebook. Make sure your Chromebook is closed, always use two hands, and never carry your Chromebook by the screen.
6. Keep it charged. Plug it in when you are not using it so that it will be charged and ready when you need it.
7. Tell your teacher right away if it breaks. Don't try to fix it yourself.
8. Remember to take care of yourself online too. Stay on approved websites, keep your password private, and log off when you're done. Remember anything that happens under your account is your responsibility.

To watch a video on Chromebook care, click on the image below.



Safety First

Your child's safety is our top priority at Lakewood Elementary. We would like to remind all parents and guardians that a school employee with a marked vest will open the car door to escort your child out the vehicle once it comes to a complete stop.

Here are a few reminders to make sure the car rider process continues to be efficient:



- Gate opens at 7:25 am to drop off students
- Gate closes at 7:50 am (if you arrive after 7:50 am, you must sign your child in at the Front Office)
- Remind your child to put their ID on before they exit the car

Spirit Shirts!

LWE themed spirit shirts are on sale now. Please follow the link below to order your student a theme shirt today!

<http://skippers.chipply.com/lweunderthesea/>



September is Attendance Awareness Month

Students who attend school every day in September will earn a dress down day in October.



“Quality Learning for All Students”

Peter Pan Cast List

Written by J.M. Barrie adapted for elementary performance.

Cast List:

Narrator 1 -----Emma Tuckson
 Narrator 2 -----Mia Candies
 Mr. Darling -----Violet Mason
 Mrs. Darling -----Olivia Danford
 Wendy Darling -----Maya Nelson
 John Darling -----Violet Mcstay
 Michael Darling -----Kaizer Saunier
 Peter Pan -----Ruby Mire
 Tinker Bell -----Sky Eskridge

Lost Boys:

Slightly -----Hannah Cella
 Nibs -----Landrie Matherne
 Curly -----Destiny Sims
 Tootles -----Makenzie Disney
 Sooner -----Caroline Lawrence
 Later -----Emery Lawrence

Pirates:

Captain Hook -----Cullen Jeffers
 Smee -----Rhett Fahrigr
 Starkey, -----Savannah Coyle
 Cecco, -----Eloise Sonnier
 Mullins/Crocodile Puppet, ---Wyatt Duckworth
 Jukes, -----Brenna Williams
 Cook/Nana (nurse dog) -----Ellie Fonseca
 Boaty -----Karyn Bennett
 Tiger Lily -----Sasha Akondzadeh
 Braves/Islanders -----Ensemble

Mermaids:

Delphi -----Emma Tregre
 Pearl -----Audrey Herman
 Marina -----Taryn Smith

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

WHAT TO DO

HEAT STROKE

- High body temperature (103°F or higher)
- Hot, red, dry, or damp skin
- Fast, strong pulse
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Losing consciousness (passing out)

- Call 911 right away-heat stroke is a medical emergency
- Move the person to a cooler place
- Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath
- Do not give the person anything to drink

HEAT EXHAUSTION

- Heavy sweating
- Cold, pale, and clammy skin
- Fast, weak pulse
- Nausea or vomiting
- Muscle cramps
- Tiredness or weakness
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Fainting (passing out)

- Move to a cool place
 - Loosen your clothes
 - Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath
 - Sip water
- Get medical help right away if:**
- You are throwing up
 - Your symptoms get worse
 - Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour

HEAT CRAMPS

- Heavy sweating during intense exercise
- Muscle pain or spasms

- Stop physical activity and move to a cool place
 - Drink water or a sports drink
 - Wait for cramps to go away before you do any more physical activity
- Get medical help right away if:**
- Cramps last longer than 1 hour
 - You're on a low-sodium diet
 - You have heart problems

SUNBURN

- Painful, red, and warm skin
- Blisters on the skin

- Stay out of the sun until your sunburn heals
- Put cool cloths on sunburned areas or take a cool bath
- Put moisturizing lotion on sunburned areas
- Do not break blisters

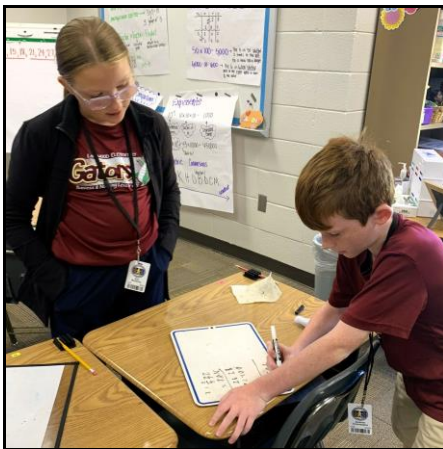
HEAT RASH

- Red clusters of small blisters that look like pimples on the skin (usually on the neck, chest, groin, or in elbow creases)

- Stay in a cool, dry place
- Keep the rash dry
- Use powder (like baby powder) to soothe the rash







Multi-Digit Multiplication



Ms. Savoie's 5th graders working hard on multi-digit multiplication and taking turns being coaches.

“Success and Nothing Less for All”

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 No School Labor Day Holiday	2 Gatorettes Parent Meeting 6:00 pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 SOY Applications Due	10 Progress reports go home	11	12	13
14	15 Gatorettes Clinic 3:00-4:30 pm	16 Gatorettes Clinic 3:00- 4:30 pm	17 No School Professional Learning Day	18	19	20
21	22	23 Fall Pictures/ 3 rd Grade Special Person Morning Meeting	24 4 th Grade Special Person Morning Meeting/ Book Fair Open until 5:30 pm	25 5 th Grade Special Person Morning Meeting 	26 	27 
Scholastic Book Fair in LWE Library!						
28 	29	30 Golden Gators Celebration 7:55 am	1	2	3	4

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- October 6:** 4th Grade Artsperience
- October 8:** Beta Induction Ceremony 6-7 pm
- October 9:** End 1st 9 weeks
- October 9, 16, 20, 27, 30:** Gatorettes practice 3-4 pm
- October 10:** 2nd 9 weeks begins
- October 13-14:** Fall Break- No School
- October 23:** Golden Gators Celebration 7:55 am
Report Cards go home
Early Dismissal- 11:55 am / Parent Teacher
Conferences 12:45- 5:45 pm
- October 24:** Early Dismissal- 11:55 am / Parent Teacher
Conferences 12:45- 3:45 pm
- October 27:** LWE Fall Talented Theatre Show 6:00 pm
- October 27-31:** Red Ribbon Week
- October 31:** Trunk-or-Treat 1-2 pm

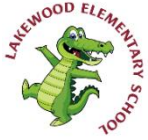
Homework Assistance Offered Through State Library of Louisiana

The State Library of Louisiana offers FREE homework assistance services to parents and students at <http://www.homeworkla.org>.

Homework Louisiana offers free online tutoring and academic resources from Tutor.com for Louisiana residents from kindergarten students through adult learners. Get help in math, science, social studies or English from a live tutor. The one-to-one tutoring hours are now 2 pm to Midnight, 7 Days a Week! Students may now access this service from any internet-connected computer or mobile device during these hours.

Please make sure to label your child's jackets, hoodies, lunch kit, etc. This way, if they are left somewhere on campus, they can be returned to your child.





Lakewood Talented Theater Students Presents



The Story of Peter Pan

“Second star on the right and straight on till
morning!”



Directed by: Megan West
October 27th 2025 @6:00 pm
Location: Lafon Center Black Box
Tickets \$5 General Admission