

Lake Schools



**FALL
2025**

- ▶ *CTE at work: Welding, robotics, culinary and more—meet students turning classes into careers*
- ▶ *February renewal levies: What's on the ballot and how they support safety, staffing, and technology*
- ▶ *Bond update: Project progress, timelines and a glimpse at our newest elementary school*

Inspiring Excellence



LAKE STEVENS
School District



Wrap, support, recover—students in Sports Medicine practice taping techniques used by athletic trainers.



Sparks fly in the LSHS manufacturing lab as a student practices MIG welding on industry-standard equipment.



Culinary students roll, slice, and bake festive cookies while mastering precision and presentation.



Career & Technical Education: Hands on learning, real-world skills

From robotics and child development to video production and digital design, nearly 100 Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses give Lake Stevens students the chance to explore interests, build marketable skills, and even earn college credit along the way.

“CTE provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, experience and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners,” said Dan Tedor, Director of CTE. “In Lake Stevens, students have access to in-demand, high-wage career areas. Our CTE students are career and college ready by accessing rigorous and inclusive learning environments.”



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Audrey Hinkson

- ▶ Senior
- ▶ CTE focus areas: Robotics, Manufacturing, Principles of Engineering, Computer Science

Audrey’s CTE journey began in eighth grade with Mr. Lynass’s Robotics and Automation class—a teacher-recommended placement that she calls “a door-opener.”



“...opened a lot of doors”

“CTE classes opened a lot of doors and helped me use creativity and logic in different ways,” Audrey shared. “They also introduced me to the engineering process and prepared me for working with people on real projects.”

Audrey competes on the high school’s robotics team—Team 8931M, United Robotics Coalition—and mentors younger students, an experience that has strengthened her communication and leadership skills. Class debates and design presentations pushed her outside her comfort zone, building confidence and the ability to explain and defend her ideas.

A project on biomedical engineering in Principles of Engineering at Cavelero sparked her interest in the field. Now, she plans to pursue this career—ideally at the University of Washington—where engineers design the equipment, devices, and software that power modern healthcare.

Pathways, college credit, and industry credentials

Lake Stevens CTE offers courses across Washington’s recognized graduation pathways:

- ▶ Business & Marketing
- ▶ Family & Consumer Sciences
- ▶ Health Sciences
- ▶ Skilled & Technical Sciences
- ▶ STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

Many courses offer CTE Dual Credit, allowing students to earn college credit by completing the high school course with a qualifying grade. Several programs also provide Industry-Recognized Credentials—from First Aid/CPR to Adobe Certified Professional—giving students a head start toward employment or advanced training. And through our CTE Manufacturing partnership with The Boeing Company’s Pre-Employment Training Program, Lake Stevens students regularly step directly from graduation into high-wage aerospace roles with a clear career pathway and competitive pay.

Beyond the high school: Sno-Isle Skills Center and Regional Apprenticeship Pathways

In addition to courses offered in Lake Stevens, students can apply to Sno-Isle Skills Center in Mukilteo, which runs 20 specialized programs ranging from advanced manufacturing to

Future engineers! Elementary Robotics teams celebrate creative builds and collaborative problem-solving.



Blazers on and goals set—our DECA team represents Lake Stevens at competition, sharpening skills in entrepreneurship, finance, marketing, and leadership.

health sciences and public safety. Students also have the opportunity to apply to the Regional Apprenticeship Pathways program, hosted in the Marysville School District. This program is a state recognized apprenticeship program for high school juniors and seniors interested in the skilled trades industries.

Why CTE matters

Students consistently report that CTE courses help them:

- ▶ Discover interests and align high school choices with future goals
- ▶ Practice teamwork and communication through project-based work
- ▶ Build confidence by presenting, defending designs, and mentoring peers
- ▶ Develop technical fluency—from coding to camera ops and editing
- ▶ Earn stackable advantages like dual credit and credentials

As Audrey put it, CTE “helps you be creative and logical” and “gets you ready for the future.” Narialieu adds that it also creates community—a place where students learn, create, and support one another.

Quick facts

- ▶ 100 courses, grades 7-12 across five pathway areas
- ▶ Dual Credit opportunities with Everett Community College and other institutions
- ▶ Student organizations and teams including Robotics, Viking TV, Esports, DECA, FCCLA, and HOSA—just to name a few

Learn more and enroll

Students: Talk with your school counselor during course selection to add CTE courses that fit your goals, and explore course descriptions on the district website, www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/cte. Local businesses interested in advisory committees, mentoring, or partnerships are encouraged to connect with the CTE office.

Career & Technical Education: Preparing every student for success

At Lake Stevens School District, our Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs are empowering students to connect their learning to their future. Students who complete at least two CTE courses, known as CTE Concentrators, are demonstrating incredible success beyond the classroom.

97.9%

of CTE concentrators graduate within four years, a rate that reflects the power of hands-on learning and real-world relevance

89%

earn an industry-recognized credential, proving they're ready to step into high-demand careers with confidence

99.6%

earn college credit through CTE Dual Credit—saving time and money as they build pathways toward higher education

CTE isn't just about classes, it's about opportunity, empowerment, and preparing every student for a bright future. Our concentrators are living proof that when education meets experience, students thrive.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Narialieu Mapp

- ▶ Senior
- ▶ CTE focus areas: Video Production and Digital Design



Narialieu found her path behind the camera in Video Production and Digital Design. She enjoyed learning so much that she repeated Video 2 to refine her skills and practice. She's filmed school events—like prom promotions and recaps—and supports athletics by recording football games.

“...gives you independence”

directing a team of people—I'm building an editor's reel.”

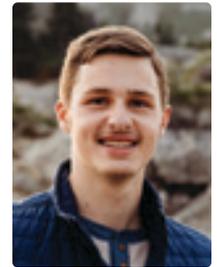
“Video production gives you independence,” Narialieu explained. “I've learned editing, how to use cameras and equipment, and

She credits the community around Viking TV, access to high-quality equipment, and supportive educators like Mr. Cogswell and Mr. Wood. After graduation, she plans to attend film school in Vancouver or Seattle and pursue work as a video editor, producer, or director.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Riley Walrod

- ▶ Senior
- ▶ CTE focus areas: Robotics, Computer Science, Digital Design



Riley's CTE journey started in eighth-grade Robotics and continued with Intro to Computer Science as a freshman and AP Computer Science as a sophomore—where he dove into object-oriented programming in Java. On the robotics team, 8931R “Arsenic,” Riley leads programming, writing control code in C++ and iterating through test-and-fix cycles before competitions.

“Programming is like a dance,” he said. “You run into errors, adjust your steps, and keep moving until the whole routine works.” His team has grown together since middle school—moving from early disagreements to clear roles, planning on Discord, and building a productive, supportive culture. Along the way, they've enjoyed standout moments, including competing at the VEX World Championship in Texas and placing fifth out of 500 teams in a Skills Challenge.

“Teamwork, communication, and problem-solving”

“Teamwork, communication, and problem solving—that's what we practice every day. Some of my closest friends came from robotics.”

What's next: Riley plans to study Chemistry in college with a focus on computational chemistry—blending computer science and research. He's applying to MIT and exploring programs where he can contribute to the research community.



2026 RENEWAL LEVIES

February: Two renewal levies to maintain safety, staffing, and student technology

Lake Stevens School District will place two renewal levies on the Feb. 10, 2026 ballot—an Educational Programs & Operations Levy (EP&O) and a Technology Levy. These measures replace the levies approved in 2022, which expire in 2026.

Local levies bridge the gap between what the state funds and the actual cost to operate schools. These are not new taxes. With community growth expanding the tax base, the school district anticipates a reduction in the local school tax rate, while sustaining our current level of services.

“These renewal measures continue local funding for the excellent services and programs we provide our students without adding new taxes,” said Dr. Mary Templeton, Superintendent of Lake Stevens School District. “Because our community has grown, we anticipate a lower local school tax rate while maintaining services students and families rely on.”

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & OPERATIONS (EP&O) LEVY

Renewing the EP&O levy helps fund the following



Student Safety, Wellness & Support

- School safety and security
- Nurses
- Student mental health support professionals




Student Access & Engagement

- Family engagement specialists
- Student transportation
- Athletics and extracurricular activities
- Early learning programs
- Supplies, materials, utilities, insurance and maintenance




Staffing & Professional Growth

- Hiring educators to help keep class sizes low
- Substitute personnel
- Professional learning



TECHNOLOGY LEVY

Renewing the Technology Levy helps fund the following



Student Devices & Lifecycles

- Classroom technology to maintain 1:1 devices for students
- Replacement of classroom technology and aging devices




Secure & Reliable Systems

- Data protection and cybersecurity
- Digital citizenship instruction
- Infrastructure upgrades




Support, Training & Innovation

- Technical support
- Professional learning
- Innovative technology



WHAT'S NEXT:
A detailed community mailer in January will include projected costs and program specifics.
Learn more at www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/levy.



Managing class size as Lake Stevens

GROWS

Did you know that Lake Stevens School District's districtwide elementary class size averages 24 students? Maintaining this average is a focus in financial and facilities planning.

Why is class size a focus?

Research and district practice indicate that smaller classes enable more individualized instruction, flexible grouping, and earlier identification of student needs. Teachers can provide more frequent feedback and adjust instruction based on student data.

Funding and staffing

The Lake Stevens community is growing, and student enrollment has increased in recent years. To staff classrooms appropriately, the district uses funds from the voter-approved Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) levy to hire more certificated staff than the state funds.

We have 636 certificated employees, districtwide. The state funds 552. That's a difference of 84 educators!*

*FTE or full-time equivalent

Facilities planning for growth

The Community Facility Needs Advisory Committee reviews enrollment trends, housing forecasts, and building capacity, then provides recommendations to the superintendent and school board to inform upcoming bond projects, staffing, classroom sections, and facilities planning.

2025 bond projects

The February 2025 school construction bond includes projects designed to expand capacity, such as:

- A new elementary school to add classroom capacity
- Rebuilding and expanding Glenwood Elementary and Skyline Elementary to provide additional classrooms and modern learning spaces
- Modernizing Lake Stevens Middle School to support current programs and enrollment
- Creating a new Secondary Innovative Learning Center to provide specialized educational options

These projects are intended to align building capacity with enrollment and instructional needs. Learn more about our bond projects and process on the next page, and at:



www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/bond

 **636**
CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES

 **552**
FUNDED BY THE STATE

A DIFFERENCE OF **84 EDUCATORS** 

Supporting school attendance: Practical tips for families



Consistent attendance is one of the strongest predictors of student success. To help families navigate common hurdles, here are quick, research-informed strategies:

- **Stay healthy:** Keep up with check-ups and vaccinations, encourage balanced meals, regular movement, solid sleep, and frequent handwashing.
- **Build social confidence:** Encourage participation in clubs and activities, stay in touch with teachers about peer concerns, and try low-stakes role-playing at home to practice tricky social scenarios.
- **Support emotional well-being:** Check in regularly, and reach out to school counselors or mental health professionals when needed. Mindfulness tools—like simple breathing exercises—can help.
- **Make mornings smoother:** Establish a routine, prep backpacks and outfits the night before, and use alarms or reminders to stay on track.

When should students stay home and when should they come to school?

- Students may attend school even with mild symptoms (e.g., light cough/runny nose, mild stomachache without recent vomiting/diarrhea, or a low fever below 100.4°F without medication).
- Students should stay home for a temperature over 100.4°F, vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours, or rashes/eye irritation with drainage, redness, pain, or fever.

You're not alone—we are here to help! If questions arise, connect with your child's school.

THANK YOU, VOTERS!

Your School Construction Bond dollars at work

Following voter approval in February 2025, work is moving forward across our bond projects to improve safety, learning spaces, and access for students.

What's done:

- Secure portables were completed this summer—enhancing access control and safety at multiple sites.

What's in progress:

- Planning and design are underway for several bond projects.
- We're gathering community input on the Skyline Elementary School and Lake Stevens Middle School modernization projects. Visit the district website to take quick surveys and review materials shared to date. Additional survey opportunities will be posted as projects advance.

What's next:

- Take a look at these project overviews and anticipated timelines. These will be updated as milestones are reached.

Thank you for staying engaged as we work together to create safe, modern, and welcoming spaces where students learn and grow.



Here's a bird's-eye view of our new elementary school, which will be built across from Stevens Creek Elementary and the Early Learning Center. Strategically located on district-owned land in the northwest portion of our district, this school meets our growing community's needs while making smart use of existing roads, utilities, and infrastructure. Staggered start and dismissal times will help ease traffic and minimize neighborhood impacts.



Here's a look east at the arrival and drop-off area—getting ready for our youngest Vikings!

2025 Capital Construction Campaign - Schedule	Schedule	
	Est. Start Date	Est. Completion Date
Elementary Eight	Spring 2026	Fall 2027
Glenwood Modernization	Summer 2027	Fall 2028
Skyline Modernization	2026	2027
Lake Stevens Middle School Modernization	2027	2029
Secondary Innovative Learning Center	2027	2028
Central Kitchen	2027	2027
Mt. Pilchuck Gym	2027	2027
Secure Receptions / Special Education Improvements	Spring 2026	Fall 2026
Hillcrest Gym	Spring 2026	Winter 26/27
Field Lighting	Fall 2025	Winter 25/26
Secure Portables	Summer 2025	COMPLETE
Secure Perimeters	TBD	Summer 2030

- 1 Project planning and design
- 2 Permitting
- 3 Bidding
- 4 Construction
- 5 Completion



New Elementary #8

- Design: NAC Architecture
- Contractor: Cornerstone



Secondary Innovative Learning Center

- Design: Dykeman Architects
- Contractor: Cornerstone



Skyline Elementary Growth and Modernization

- Design: NAC Architecture
- Contractor: Spee West Construction



Lake Stevens Middle School Growth and Modernization

- Design: NAC Architecture
- Contractor: Spee West Construction



Glenwood Growth and Modernization

- Design: Dykeman Architecture
- Contractor: Cornerstone

Message from Your Superintendent



Lake Stevens, we're off and running!

The first months of school have been filled with smiling faces, purposeful learning, and that unmistakable energy you only find when students and staff are back together. From kindergarten circle time to high school science labs, our schools are buzzing.

One of the great joys of this job is getting to connect with you. I've had the opportunity to meet with our service organizations, City Council, and other community partners. These conversations strengthen our shared commitment to students and keep us aligned on what matters most—great teaching, safe and welcoming schools, and opportunities for every learner to thrive. If you see me out and about, please say hello—I welcome your ideas and partnership.

Inside our schools, I'm incredibly proud of our staff. Across the district, educators are working in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to analyze student learning, share strategies, and continuously refine instruction. PLCs help us make sure every student is seen, supported, and challenged—whether they're mastering foundational skills or stretching into advanced coursework.

As we look ahead, I invite you to learn more about our upcoming levy renewals. These levies sustain essential programs and services that our students and families have come to know and expect. Please take a few minutes to review the information here and on our website so you can be fully informed about what these renewals continue to provide for our students and staff. And please remember to vote in February.

I encourage you to visit a school and consider volunteering. Whether you read with a student, help at a family night, mentor a club, or support a classroom project, your presence makes a difference. Our community is one of Lake Stevens' greatest strengths, and our schools are better because of you.

Thank you for the warm welcome into the new school year and for all the ways you lift up our students and staff.

We are Better Together, and I look forward to seeing you soon!

With gratitude,

Dr. Mary Templeton
Superintendent

Special Education services in Lake Stevens School District

The Lake Stevens School District is focused on meeting the needs of all students. Toward this end, the district is committed to locating, evaluating and identifying students from birth to age 22 who are suspected of having a disability for the purpose of determining whether they are in need of special education and related services. This extends to students residing in the district, whether or not they are enrolled in the public school system. This also includes highly mobile children (such as migrant or homeless students) who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education, even though they are advancing from grade to grade.

A student eligible for special education means a student who has been evaluated and determined to need special education because of having a disability in one of the eligibility categories, and who, because of the disability and adverse educational impact, has unique needs that cannot be addressed exclusively through education in general education classes with or without individual accommodations, and needs specially designed instruction. The eligibility categories are hearing, vision, speech, language, orthopedic or health impairment, intellectual disability, an emotional behavioral disability, Autism Spectrum disorder, traumatic brain injury, deaf-blindness, multiple disabilities, a specific learning disability or for students, ages three through 10, a developmental delay.



For more information, visit the school district website and click on "Departments" and "Special Services" or call 425-335-1660.



Safety and Program Improvements and Additions

- Design: Dykeman Architects
- Contractor: Bayley Construction



Secure Perimeters

- Design: Dykeman Architects / Fora Landscape Architecture / Hargis Engineers
- Contractor: TBD



Secure Portables

- Design: Hargis Engineers / Dykeman Architects
- Contractor: Long Building Technologies

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2025	
24-26	Elementary (K-5) Family Conferences; no school (K-5)
27	Thanksgiving Day, no school
28	No school
December 2025	
22-31	Winter Break, no school
January 2026	
1-2	Winter Break, no school
19	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no school
23	End of first semester
26	No school, Learning Improvement Day for staff
	I Love Lake Stevens Schools Rally 3 to 5 p.m.

EDDM
ECRWSS
Current Resident

Join us for the Lake Stevens School District

HOLIDAY MAKER FAIR

MORE THAN 130 CRAFT VENDORS

Saturday, Dec. 6
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cavelero Mid High School
8220 24th St. SE Lake Stevens



For details, please visit: www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/fair

Golden Viking card offers free admission for senior citizens



Senior citizens are invited to participate in Lake Stevens School District's Golden Viking Program. The program is a partnership opportunity for seniors living in Lake Stevens School District's boundaries to participate in high school athletic events and high school drama productions at no charge.



The Golden Viking Card admits one senior citizen (65 years of age or older) to regular season high school sporting events and drama productions where admission is charged. This does not include playoff games.

Golden Viking applications are available online and at the Educational Services Center, 12309 22nd St NE. You may also call 425-335-1500.

We hope you'll join us by participating in the amazing experiences that our students bring to our community through education and activities.

REGISTER TO VOTE OR UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION

Are you a registered voter? Have you moved or changed your name? Registering to vote, or updating your registration, is quick and easy! Visit vote.wa.gov to get started. Paper registration forms are available at the Educational Services Center or your neighborhood school.

SUPERINTENDENT Mary Templeton, Ed.D. | **EDITOR** Jayme Taylor | **DESIGN** Jonathan Sulzbach | **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Mari Taylor, President • David Iseminger, Vice President • Dr. Nina Kim Hanson & Vildan Kirby, Co-Legislative Representatives • Paul Lund, Director

In accordance with RCW 49.60, the Lake Stevens School District does not discriminate in employment and schools. The Lake Stevens 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 Lake Stevens School District, 12309 22nd St. NE, Lake Stevens, WA 98258, Attention: Gina Anderson—Title IX and Civil Rights Coordinator, or ADA Compliance Coordinator and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator—425-335-1500 or gina_anderson@lkstevens.wednet.edu.