



— Lakeview Local Schools —
LAKEVIEW LEDGER
December 2025

From the Desk of the Superintendent

Dear Lakeview Families,

As the holiday season arrives, I am overwhelmed by the incredible generosity and spirit of service that define our community. Over the past few months, we have witnessed an outpouring of donations for our pantry and student support programs: gifts that directly impact the daily lives of our families. Your kindness ensures that every child has what they need to feel cared for, welcomed and ready to learn. Thank you for lifting one another up so generously.



I've also seen countless moments of leadership and compassion among our students. Whether they are honoring our veterans through heartfelt Veterans Day programs or simply helping clean the cafeteria after lunch, these small acts reveal big character. They show us that our students aren't just learning academics, they are learning empathy, responsibility, and what it means to serve their community. These glimpses of who they are becoming are among the greatest joys of our work.

As we look ahead, we know that challenges are approaching. Legislative changes will bring reductions that will impact our district, and it's natural to feel the weight of uncertainty. But during this season, when we're reminded of what matters most, I want to encourage us all to stay anchored in our purpose. Let us remember the "why" behind everything we do: our students, their futures, and the community we are building together.

Our challenges are real, but they do not define us. They should never overshadow the joy, pride, and hope that fill our classrooms and hallways every day. We have much to celebrate, and even more to believe in.

Thank you for being a community that shows up for one another, that models generosity for our children, and that continues to make this district a place we can all be proud of.

Wishing you peace, warmth, and joy this holiday season.

Warmly,
Ashley Handrych
Superintendent

NEWS YOU CAN USE: Civics Day



Lakeview High School students stepped out of the classroom and into the world of public service this week as they participated in the county's annual Civics Day, an event designed to give young people an up-close look at local government in action.

As part of the hands-on learning experience, students had the opportunity to job shadow several key civic leaders, including the Mayor, as well as the Chiefs of Police for Cortland and Bazetta. Throughout the day, students observed meetings, toured departments, and gained insight into the responsibilities, pressures, and real-world decision-making that come with holding public office.

The event concluded with a ceremony featuring a keynote speech by the Treasurer of the State of Ohio, who offered candid advice and encouragement for students considering careers in public service.

He emphasized the importance of "expecting the unexpected" in civic roles, reminding students that challenges often arise without warning. What matters most, he said, is being prepared to adapt and to lead with resilience. He also spoke about the willingness to jump in and do the work, noting that dedication and initiative are essential qualities for anyone hoping to make a meaningful impact in their community.

Local officials praised the students for their engagement and thoughtful questions throughout the day. Many students said the experience expanded their understanding of how local government functions and inspired them to think more deeply about their own civic responsibilities.

Lakeview High School plans to continue its strong participation in Civics Day, viewing the event as an invaluable opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world leadership.

Veterans Day Ceremony

The Lakeview Local School District came together in a powerful display of unity, gratitude, and reflection during its annual K-12 Veterans Day Ceremony, where students from all three buildings honored the men and women who have served our nation. The event, held in the Lakeview High School auditorium, brought together veterans, students, staff, families, and community members for a morning dedicated to remembrance and respect.



Throughout the ceremony, students participated through musical performances, readings, and digital media presentations designed to highlight the significance of Veterans Day and the sacrifices made by service members. The purpose of the event goes far beyond tradition, it reflects Lakeview's commitment to ensuring students understand the extraordinary sacrifices made by veterans and to instill

lessons of service, gratitude, and civic responsibility in the next generation.

This year's featured speaker was Mr. John Terbovich, Lakeview High School intervention specialist, U.S. military veteran, and proud Lakeview alumnus. Terbovich delivered an inspiring and heartfelt speech, sharing how his own years as a Lakeview student helped shape the values that guided him into military service. He spoke about the "thread" connecting his experiences in Lakeview classrooms and



hallways to his time serving the country, reminding everyone present of the district's deep-rooted traditions and the sense of community that has long defined Lakeview Local Schools.

The event once again showcased Lakeview's dedication to honoring those who serve while nurturing a spirit of citizenship and service in its students.

Lakeview Local Schools extends its deepest gratitude to all veterans, past and present, for their courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to protecting our freedoms.

Important Dates:

- ▶ DECEMBER 19th : **EARLY RELEASE**, End of 2nd Nine Weeks
- ▶ DECEMBER 22nd - JANUARY 3rd: **NO SCHOOL**, Winter Break
- ▶ JANUARY 5th : Classes Resume

Local Service Clubs Come Together

This holiday season, the Lakeview Local School District is feeling the warmth of community generosity as several local service clubs and businesses stepped forward to support families in need. Their contributions are helping ensure that every family in the Lakeview community experiences comfort, dignity, and togetherness during the holidays.



This year's efforts were boosted significantly by Greenwood Auto of Cortland, which donated a large supply of food to support the district's holiday meal program. Their contribution helped stock the shelves of the Lakeview food pantry and provided essential items to families preparing for the season.

The Rotary Club of Cortland continued its tradition of service by making sure every family had a turkey for their holiday table. With a donation of 30 turkeys, the Rotary Club once again demonstrated its commitment to neighbors in need and to supporting students beyond the classroom.

The district also received incredible financial support from two longtime community partners. The Optimist Club generously donated \$3,000, helping sustain ongoing food assistance efforts and holiday programming. In a remarkable show of generosity, the Cortland Moose Lodge contributed \$18,000, significantly expanding the district's ability to support local families during the winter months.

In addition, the Lions Club has provided meaningful support to the district's food pantry program this holiday season, further enhancing Lakeview's ability to ensure that no student or family goes without.

Lakeview Local Schools expressed deep gratitude to each organization for their ongoing commitment to the district. These donations not only help meet basic needs but also reflect the spirit of community that defines the Lakeview area.



Holiday Concerts:

- ▶ DECEMBER 3rd: 6th & 7th Grade Choir Concert, 6 PM
- ▶ DECEMBER 4th: 3rd & 5th Grade Choir Concert, 6PM & 7 PM
- ▶ DECEMBER 9th: 6th & 7th Grade Band Concert, 6 PM
- ▶ DECEMBER 10th: Jazz Band Concert at Hartford Hill Winery, 6 PM
- ▶ DECEMBER 11th: 8th Band & Choir Concert, 6 PM
- ▶ DECEMBER 15th: High School Band & Choir Concert, 7 PM



LMS Cooking Class

The Superintendent's Adventure Club hit Lakeview Middle School this month as students took part in a hands-on cooking class at Thyme in Your Kitchen in Sharon, PA. The experience brought together students from across the district for an afternoon focused on collaboration, creativity, and community building.

Upon arriving at the culinary workshop, students were divided into small cooking teams, many of which included peers they didn't typically spend time



with. What might have been unfamiliar at first quickly turned into an opportunity for growth. As they chopped, mixed, seasoned, and sautéed, students learned to rely on one another's strengths, communicate clearly, and work through challenges, skills essential both in and beyond the classroom.

Instructors at Thyme in Your Kitchen guided students through each step of preparing a shared meal, but the heart of the experience came from the way the group interacted. Students demonstrated remarkable respect, politeness, and patience, not only toward the instructor but also toward one another. Whether handing off ingredients, timing dishes, or offering encouragement, the group showcased the kind of teamwork and courtesy that define the Superintendent's Adventure Club's mission.

The cooking adventure served as a reminder that growth often happens outside traditional learning spaces. Through shared challenges and new experiences, the Superintendent's Adventure Club continues to help students build confidence, strengthen relationships, and discover the power of working together.



Lakeview Blues Jazz Band Shines at School Board Conference

The Lakeview Blues Jazz Band hit a major high note last month after being selected to perform at the Ohio School Board Association (OSBA) Conference in Columbus, one of the largest and most prestigious education conferences in the state.



The honor followed a competitive audition process in which school ensembles from across Ohio submitted recordings for consideration. Lakeview's jazz band impressed the selection committee with its musicianship, energy, and distinctive sound, earning an invitation to perform for school leaders from every corner of the state.

When the students took the stage in Columbus, they were greeted by an enthusiastic crowd that included numerous Trumbull County superintendents and school board members who took time out of their conference specifically to support the group. Their presence underscored the pride felt across the county for Lakeview's young musicians.

The band's performance captivated conference attendees and left an immediate impression. In fact, shortly after finishing their final number, the group received an invitation to perform at the OSBA regional conference next fall, a testament to their professionalism and standout talent.

For those within the Lakeview community, the recognition came as no surprise.

We've always known they're a hidden gem, but seeing them gain notoriety on a statewide stage was absolutely incredible.



Grant Funds

Article by Terry Armstrong, Treasurer

Grant funds are an important revenue stream that help meet the needs of students, staff and the school community. Lakeview Local Schools engages with several stakeholder groups to identify financial resources that provide grant assistance. For the current fiscal year (2026), we currently have been allocated \$959,558.99 in grant funds. We anticipate this increasing at least another \$125,000.00 in grant funds during the remainder of the school year. They currently are as follows:

\$271,401.89	Title I (Improving Basic Programs) -Goal is to provide students with a well-rounded education, instructional supports, non-instructional supports like behavior and mentoring support, improving school quality. Lakeview 25-26 Initiatives: Teachers and Instructional assistants
\$ 49,053.33	Title II (Supporting Effective Instruction) -Purpose of Title II funds is to provide supplemental activities that strengthen the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals and other school leaders. Lakeview 25-26 Initiatives: Professional Development for staff
\$ 21,279.87	Title IV (Student Support and Academic Enrichment) -Goal of these funds is to provide all students with access to well-rounded education; Improve school conditions for student learning and improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of students. Lakeview 25-26 Initiatives: Increase in career counseling services/training; funding of elementary STEM programs.

\$200,000.00	Ohio Department of Development/Office of Energy Efficiency Program (LED installation)
\$345,823.90	IDEA B (Special Education) -Purpose of funding is to provide support services, professional development and other "excess" costs for special education services. Lakeview 25-26 Initiatives: Fund three intervention specialists and four support staff with IDEA grant to work directly and support students.
\$ 72,000.00	United Way "United 4 Kids Initiative" -Goal is to fund direct assistance with educational and/or social emotional support for students and can also include STEM and career readiness through workshops, field trips and other experiences. Lakeview 25-26 Initiatives: Funding four staff to directly support students that will include tutoring