



Lind-Ritzville Cooperative Schools

April 2026

Community Connections Newsletter

Irschools.org



2026 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE for **PROGRESS**

★ ★ ★
Awarded by State Superintendent Chris Reykdal



LRCS receives the State Superintendent's Award for Educational Excellence in Student Progress!

We are excited to announce the Lind & Ritzville School Districts have been awarded the State Superintendent's Award for Educational Excellence in Student Progress!

This honor reflects the dedication found in every building and belongs to all our students, staff and families. It shows what we can accomplish together and serves as a powerful reminder of our collective strength.

Both districts will receive a banner and a plaque from OSPI recognizing their achievement and commitment to student success. This is the inaugural year of this state award.



2026-27 School Calendar

During the March school board meeting, the Lind and Ritzville School Boards adopted the 2026-27 school calendar. If LRCS is approved for the Economy and Efficiency waiver by the state, the district will operate on a four-day school week for students during the 2026-27 school year.

As you may recall, LRCS considered applying for the Economy and Efficiency waiver—shifting to a four-day school week—last spring. After careful consideration, the school board decided not to apply at that time, opting instead to reconsider the option for the 2026-27 school year.

The Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is expected to notify school districts in April or early May regarding waiver approvals. Upon notification, we will promptly share the decision with our families.

This schedule adjustment is designed to support student achievement, strengthen teacher retention, and improve work-life balance for both families and staff.

Please visit the "4-Day School Week Information" tab at Irschools.org for further updates and to view the 2026-27 LRCS School Calendar.

Upcoming LRCS Events

- April 2 & 3 - Spring Conferences (**NO SCHOOL**)
- April 6-10 - Spring Break (**NO SCHOOL**)
- April 13 - LRMS Group Spring Photos
- April 15 - HS Money Live (HS Seniors)
- April 17 - HS Honor Society Induction Ceremony / 6:00 PM
- April 21-24 - FBLA State Conference (Spokane)
- April 24 - RGS 5th Grade Arbor Day Field Trip
- April 25 - Undeberg Track Invite / Ritzville
- April 27 - School Board / LRHS Collaboration Room / 6:30 PM
- April 28 - LRHS Dual Credit & Running Start Information Night / 6:00 PM
- April 29 - RGS TK-4 Music Concert / Gilson Gym / 6:00 PM
- May 3 - Lind Alumni Banquet
- May 6 - LES TK-4 Music Concert / LRMS Gym / 6:00 PM
- May 7 - RGS Muffins with Misses / 7:30-8:15 AM
- May 8 - RGS 5th Grade Law Day
- May 11-16 - RGS Missoula Children's Theater: Hercules
- May 13 - LES Pastries with Parents / 7:45 - 8:25 AM
- May 13-16 - FFA State Convention
- May 16 - Spokane Lilac / Armed Forces Torchlight Parade
- May 19 - 7th Grade trip to Coulee Dam
- May 20 - 5th - 12th Grade Band Concert / Gilson Gym / 6:00 PM
- May 21 - RGS 5th Grade Trout Release Field Trip
- May 21 - Band Silverwood Trip
- May 22 - Snow Make-Up Day (If needed) or **NO SCHOOL**
- May 23 - Ritzville Alumni Banquet Gilson Gym
- May 25 - Memorial Day (**NO SCHOOL**)
- June 6 - LRHS Graduation / Gilson Gym / 2:00 PM
- June 9 - Last Day of School (Early Release)

****Dates & Times Subject to Change**

SPRING MUSIC CONCERTS

🎵 RGS TK - 4TH GRADE MUSIC
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 / 6:00PM / GILSON GYM

🎵 LES TK - 4TH GRADE MUSIC
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 / 6:00PM / LRMS GYM

🎵 5TH-12TH GRADE BAND
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 / 6:00PM / GILSON GYM

Great things happening at LRCS



The LES 2nd grade class recently finished their unit on lifecycles. After reading books about the butterfly's lifecycle, Ms. Megan from the Ritzville Library helped students work on a butterfly lifecycle project.



Throughout February, the LES Kindergarten and TK students rolled a die every day and counted that many bears into a container throughout the month. They got much better at recognizing the dots on the die without having to count them, and at using 1:1 correspondence to fill the container for a grand total of 730 bears!



Congratulations to the eleven new members of the Lind-Ritzville Middle School Junior Honor Society! To qualify, students must maintain at least a 3.75 GPA and consistently demonstrate good behavior.

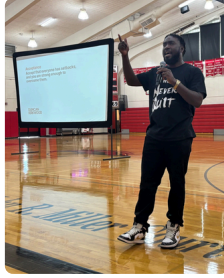


RGS's 1st-grade class had a fun "Dino Day" to celebrate the completion of its History of the Earth unit. Students pretended to be paleontologists digging for fossils, explored and sorted rocks and minerals, made their own fossils, and made their own volcanoes!



To kick off the LR FFA Chapter's food drive, LRMS Principal Don Walker made a deal: if the winning grade brought in over 100 items, they would get to duct tape him to the wall. The 8th graders crushed the goal, and Mr. Walker was a man of his word!

The donated items will go to the Ronald McDonald House to help support families staying near their children during hospital treatments. We are proud of our students for giving back to such an important cause.



Last May, some of our students attended the Junior Summit at Whitworth. While there, they heard a presentation from Duncan Kirkwood. The students were so impressed that they wanted all high schoolers to hear his message of resilience.

The district was lucky enough to have him speak to middle and high school students on the first day of school in August. In March, he returned to LRHS & LRMS to spend an hour with each grade level, discussing what success means to them and how to achieve it. Students created vision boards to map out their futures, using Kirkwood's advice that "when you have a goal or a dream, the most important thing is the first step." Students also received his book, *Rerouting: Resilience Tools & Tactics*, to help them stay the course. Duncan is a veteran, author, and resilience trainer who travels the world to spread his message of hope.



Headed to Washington D.C.! Isabella Najera, Sara Vidal-Garcia, Zachary Christman, and Wednesday Curlee are set to compete at Nationals this July!

FCCLA State Results:

Wednesday Curlee - Digital Stories for Change - GOLD
 Zachary Christman - Red Talks for Education - GOLD
 Cicely Herrera - Baking and Pastry - SILVER
 Elijah Jacinto - Baking and Pastry - SILVER
 Anjela Nava Lopez - Interior Design - SILVER
 Natalia Nunez - Job Interview - SILVER
 Yasenia Bernal - Career Investigation - BRONZE
 Sara Vidal-Garcia - Early Childhood Education - SILVER
 Paiten Hood - Early Childhood Education - SILVER
 Isabella Najera - Leadership - SILVER
 Eliza Scheel - Professional Presentation - SILVER
 Isabella Herrera - Teaching Strategies - BRONZE
 Hope McClanathan - Fashion Construction - BRONZE

Isabella Najera was elected as State FCCLA Vice President of Public Relations!

APRIL NO SCHOOL DAYS

APRIL 2 & 3
SPRING CONFERENCES

APRIL 6-10
SPRING BREAK



LRHS Graduation
Saturday, June 6
2:00 PM / Gilson Gym

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