

Friends & Neighbors Newsletter

Superintendent's Message: Strong fiscal stewardship

Greetings,

As we head into spring, I'm excited to share several highlights and updates from across Lakewood



Dr. Erin Murphy, Superintendent

School District. Our winter sports teams at Lakewood High School enjoyed an outstanding season with LHS Cheer earning 2nd place in state, and Flag Football, Boys and Girls Basketball, and Wrestling all having advanced to postseason play.

We are incredibly proud of our

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UPCOMING EVENTS

April 16: District Choir Concert, 7 p.m., LHS

April 24-25: FFA Spring Plant Sale

April 28: District Band Concert, 7 p.m., LHS

May 7-9; 14-16: LHS Drama Presents the Musical: Little Shop of Horrors

Facility updates at LES and CCE



Thank you, voters! Cougar Creek Elementary now has a new layer of safety. Crews completed the security fencing around the school's play field and playground.

Lakewood School District has received a \$600,000 urgent repair grant from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to replace Lakewood Elementary's outdated boiler system. The upgrade will include two commercial-size boilers and heat pumps.

The current system has exceeded its lifespan, requires frequent maintenance, and depends on hard-to-find parts. This new equipment will improve safety, reliability, and comfort for students and staff while increasing efficiency.

OUTDOOR SPACES: AN AMENITY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Enjoy the views from the LHS tennis courts or relax while walking the cross-country trail near English Crossing. And don't forget our playgrounds for families. As we



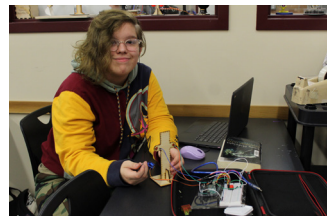
Lakewood's tennis courts are available to individuals after school until dusk. For group reservations, visit our Facilities website.

continue to improve school safety, we are equally committed to keeping our outdoor facilities open to the community. Gates are unlocked after school hours and on weekends until dusk for individuals to enjoy these shared spaces.

STEM students say thank you to Rotary

A big Cougar thank you to Marysville Rotary! A Rotary grant made it possible for Lakewood Middle School to add a third Glowforge laser cutter to our STEM Lab. This upgrade has reduced bottlenecks and given students more time to create.

Students in Ron Detrick's Applied STEM class shared their learning and showcased their work during a Rotary meeting in January. Emma, an eighth grader, told attendees that the third machine has given her the time she needs to finish a birdhouse she



An eighth grader in the Applied STEM class builds a miniature traffic light by programming arduinos.

designed by keeping equipment wait times at a minimum.

Other projects have included traffic lights, railroad crossings, and other moving miniatures.



The LMS STEM Lab made a custom Rotary Wheel using the new laser cutter that they presented during the meeting.

Students use Tinkercad programming software and Arduinos—alongside laser cutters and 3D printers—to bring their ideas to life.



LAKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Inspiring Growth.
Empowering Futures.

FIND US ON



Dr. Murphy: New committee will advise on district budget

Continued from front

student-athletes and coaches whose dedication, teamwork, and school spirit represented Lakewood so well.

We are also deeply grateful for the continued support of our community. Strong fiscal stewardship and transparency remain essential to maintaining the trust that makes our partnerships strong.

To further support this commitment, the Lakewood District Budget Advisory Committee (DBAC) launched in February, with representation from staff, students, school board members and community members.

This committee will advise the Lakewood Board of Directors and staff on development and

review of short- and long-term financial plans aligned with the district mission, strategic direction, and capital facilities plan.

Work continues across the district in support of our voter-approved Capital Levy. We are partnering with Construction Services Group (CSG) through Educational Services District 112 to support several major projects, including the LMS roof and cafeteria improvements and the LES boiler/HVAC project.

We look forward to sharing more updates about these projects soon.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of Lakewood School District.

All my best,

Kindergarten Registration now available online for 2026-27

Will your child be 5 by Aug. 31? Kindergarten registration for the 2026-27 school year is now available online!

Visit our website to apply and learn what documents you will need to complete the enrollment process.



U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR NOMINEES

Lakewood High School seniors **Lillian Fey** and **Griffin Harbrige** were nominated for the U.S. Presidential Scholars



Program, and **Rylee Thompson** was nominated for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program in Career and Technical Education. The Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has officially submitted its nominations. Good luck to these nominees!

Winter Sports: History made during first season of girls flag football

A little rain couldn't bring down the high energy as the Cougars took the field for the first-ever varsity and JV girls flag football games in school history.

Girls flag football is now a sanctioned varsity sport in Washington, and Lakewood is proud to have been part of the premiere season.

The girls stayed in the WIAA state top 10 list for several weeks and ended the season with a 7-3 winning record.



To help with start-up costs, the Seattle Seahawks and mascot Blitz surprised athletes and coaches with a \$4,000 grant during a spirit assembly in December.

CHEER 5TH AT NATIONALS



LHS Cheer ended their season with 2nd place at the WIAA State Cheer Championships and 5th place at the National Championship in California.

GIRLS BREAK RECORDS



LHS girls basketball broke record after record, including points in a game, steals in a season, points in a season (Karly Stewart), and most 3-pointers (Leiana Riveira).

BOYS BASKETBALL TO STATE



Boys Basketball competed at state after an exciting season punctuated by school records from senior Caleb Greenland, who became Lakewood's all-time leading scorer.

11 WRESTLERS TO STATE



Lakewood was well represented at the State Wrestling Championships. Seven girls and four boys qualified to compete. At Districts, the girls placed 2nd.

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

Lakewood School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, color, religion, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, homelessness, immigration or citizenship status, disability, neurodivergence, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal, age, and honorably discharged veteran or military status and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Lakewood School District, 17110 16th Drive NE, Marysville, WA 98271, Attention: Title IX and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, Timothy Haines, 360-652-4500, thaines@lwsd.wednet.edu or Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Lissan Wipfli, 360-652-4500, lwipfli@lwsd.wednet.edu. Title IX inquiries may also be directed toward the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR). Information about the nondiscrimination and sex-based discrimination policies and grievance procedures, and how to report a concern or complaint are at www.lwsd.wednet.edu.