

Lakeview Community Schools

Viking Voyager

Fall 2026



From the Desk of the Superintendent

As we begin another school year, I've been thinking about one of my favorite parts of almost any movie: **the montage.**

You know the scene. The music kicks in, our main character gets to work, and in the span of about three minutes we watch weeks or months of frustration, failure, small victories, and growth. By the time the music fades, something has changed. The athlete is stronger. The team has come together. The problem has been solved. There is a sense of accomplishment because we get to see all that hard work pay off. The *Rocky IV* training montage may be one of the best examples. Rocky starts out struggling in the snow and ends up on top of a mountain. It's epic!

But here's the problem with montages: **they make progress look a lot easier than it actually is.** When you're living through your own montage, there isn't always epic background music. You don't get to fast-forward through the difficult parts. Progress happens one day at a time. There are setbacks, frustrations, small victories, and days when things just don't click. Most worthwhile goals aren't accomplished through one giant breakthrough. They're accomplished through consistency and the determination to keep going.

Our students will experience plenty of those moments this year. Maybe it's learning to read, finally understanding a difficult concept, making a team, performing in front of an audience, finding new friends, or preparing for life after graduation. Our staff will have their own montages, and so will all of us as parents, families, and community members.

That's why I think it's important that we **share our montages with each other.** Tell people what you're working toward. Share the small victories. Let others know when you're struggling. And when someone shares their goals with you, encourage them and celebrate their progress. We don't have to wait until someone reaches the top of the mountain to recognize how far they've come.

In fact, maybe *Rocky IV* isn't the best picture of how we should approach the year. Rocky spends much of that montage training relatively alone in Russia. I'd rather we look a little more like *Rocky II*. As Rocky makes his run through Philadelphia, more and more people join him until an entire crowd is running alongside him up the steps.

That's the kind of culture I want us to continue building at Lakeview. **We are all working toward something. We are all somewhere in our own montage. But we don't have to do it alone.** We can run alongside one another, celebrate victories, help each other through the setbacks, and remember that progress—not perfection—is what moves us forward.

I can't wait to see what our students, staff, and community accomplish this year. And even more importantly, I can't wait to see how we support one another along the way.

We are Lakeview.

Rick Meyer, Superintendent

Staying Connected!

We're making a small change to the way we share news and updates!

- Moving forward, we'll be publishing two
- newsletters each school year—one at the
- beginning of the year (September), and one
- at the end of the year (May).
- Between newsletters, you can stay up to
- date with the latest news, events,
- accomplishments, and happenings
- across our schools by visiting our
- website and following us on Facebook,
- Instagram, and X.



www.lakeview.esu7.org



<https://www.facebook.com/lakeviewcommunityschools>



<https://www.instagram.com/lakeviewvikes/>



<https://x.com/LakeviewVikes>



Please Welcome Our

New Staff Members



Back L-R: Daniel McCarty (Music), Jason Sjuts (Physical Education), Travis Schoch (Social Sciences), Paul Newland (Shell Creek Dean of Students)

Front L-R: Sarah Robinson (Special Education), Julee Jaixen (6th Grade), Rubie Escalante (Kindergarten), Anna Luckey (2nd Grade)

LAKEVIEW FBLA NEWSLETTER

EDUCATION



SERVICE



PROGRESS



2026-2027

Officer Team

(front, l to r):

Addison Arndt, Historian

Genesis Enriquez, Vice President

Grace Enriquez, Parliamentarian

Maci Becker, Treasurer

(back, l to r):

Shelly Blum, Social Media

Avery Hadenfelt, President

Grace Stromberg, Reporter

Ayla Badstieber, Secretary

Not pictured: Mrs. Tara Dlouhy,

Adviser

Social Media

Due to changes with the newsletter, please follow us on social media to keep up to date on chapter events!



Lakeview High School FBLA



lakeview_fbla

If you have any questions, ask an FBLA officer or Mrs Dlouhy.

Events

Tentative Schedule of Events (Not all Dates have been Set)

- **September 22:** Fall Leadership Conference (officers only)
- **October TBD:** Fall Tour
- **November 4-7:** National Fall Leadership Conference
- **December 13:** December to Remember (subject to change)
- **February:** Winter Tour
- **February:** FBLA Group Trip
- **March 1:** Wall of Fame Award Due
- **April 14-16:** State Leadership Conference
- **April:** Elections & Induction Night

Officer Training

Chapter officer training was held July 7th. We brainstormed, bonded, and soaked up the summer sun. The theme for the upcoming year is "Where Leaders Begin." We are excited to grow with members in leadership skills.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Food Feud! The annual food feud against Scotus will be held on September 11th at Memorial Stadium/Pawnee Park. Items wanted are non-perishable foods or monetary donations.



Blue Pride Cards! The cards will arrive by mid September and for a price of \$10 from any FBLA member.



Membership! Fill out the form on your locker and bring payment of \$15 (\$25 if you want a shirt) to Mrs. Dlouhy by October 1st.

National Leadership Conference

One FBLA member attended the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX from June 29 - July 2. At the conference, Vivienne Mulder attended workshops, networked with others, and competed at the highest level in Computer Applications.





WALL OF FAME



The Lakeview FBLA Chapter is sponsoring the 26th annual Wall of Fame Award to be presented to a deserving alumnus of Lakeview High School. Our past recipients have been Ms. Kris Saalfeld Malkoski, Mr. Chuck Kinzer, Mrs. Arlis Goering Plummer, Mr. James Pillen, Ms. Cathy Swoboda Curtis, Mrs. Jan Rodehorst Went, Mrs. Jill Rodehorst Goedeken, Mrs. Ivy Bakenhus Klug, Mrs. Jackie Staack Runge, Mr. John Bruckner, Mrs. Rachael Wilke Rodehorst, Mrs. Gwen Franzen Sander, Mr. Quinten Lyon, Mr. Edward Kinzer, Mr. Brent Gehring, Mr. Craig Franzen, Mrs. Judy Dicke, the late James Wilke, Mrs. Tammy Lyons, the late Paul Wilke, Mrs. Rita Wilke, Dr. Kurt Kapels, Joel Smejkal, Melissa Foltz, and Travis Hollman. We will once again be honoring an outstanding graduate who has contributed to their community and has shown outstanding leadership skills. The nominees should be people who have been successful in their career and have exceptional character. They must be a Lakeview graduate.

If you would like to nominate someone, please fill out this form and return it to Lakeview by March 1st. We will then send applications to the nominees, and a selection committee will choose the recipient of the award. The award will be presented at the Honors Night Program in May and their names will be displayed on a plaque in the school.

Thank you for taking part in this project. Your time is greatly appreciated.

Your name: _____

Phone number: _____

Name of nominee: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone number: _____ Email (if available): _____

Year of graduation: _____

Why you believe they deserve this honor:

Nominations Due: March 1, 2027

(Send to)

tdlouhy@lakeview.esu7.org or mail to
3744 83rd Street, Columbus, NE 68601

LAKEVIEW FFA

AUGUST

8/12 – First Day of School
8/16 – Back to School Picnic
8/21 – T-shirt Order Forms Due

SEPTEMBER

9/2 – Floral Homecoming Orders Due
9/5 – State Dairy Judging
9/9 – Greenhand Day (Freshmen)
9/13 – Fall Trash Pickup
9/15 – Membership Forms Due
9/16 – Husker Harvest Days
9/30 – Regional Land Judging

OCTOBER

10/2 – Test Your Well
10/12 – Harvest Heroes
10/17 – Taste of Columbus
10/18 – Dog Jog
9/30-10/28 – Fruit Sales
10/21-24 – National Convention
10/30-11/9 – Pumpkin Collection

NOVEMBER

11/10 – District Livestock Judging
11/20 – Labor Auction
TBD – York Welding Invite
TBD – Platte Valley Equipment Day (Fall)

DECEMBER

12/2 – District LDE Contest
12/1-4 – Fruit Sales Delivery
12/1-4 – Poinsettia Delivery
12/21-1/4 – Winter Break

JANUARY

1/21 – District CDE's Round 1
1/25 – State Degrees Due to Advisors
TBD – State Degree/Proficiency Work Nights

FEBRUARY

2/3 – State Degree Review
2/3 – STAR Interviews
2/6 – Lexington Welding Invite
2/17 – Kearney Welding Invite
2/17 – Winter Cattlemen's Classic
2/22-26 – FFA WEEK
2/26 – FFA WEEK BREAKFAST
TBD – Platte Valley Cattlemen's Banquet

MARCH

3/2 – District CDE's Round 2
3/20 – Cattle Battle
3/31-4/2 – STATE FFA
TBD – Greenhouse Pickup Tour
TBD – Central City Welding Invite
TBD – Life on the Farm
TBD – Platte Valley Equipment Day (Spring)

APRIL

4/4 – Trash Pickup
4/11 – LAKEVIEW BANQUET
TBD – Greenhouse Flower Sales
TBD – World Food Prize

MAY

5/3 – Kindergarten Farm Fun Day (KFFD)
5/14 – Last Day of School

STAY UP TO DATE!



BAND APP

Monthly FFA meetings and officer meetings have not been scheduled at this time. Students watch BAND and our digital calendar for meeting dates and other important updates throughout the year.

GET INVOLVED THIS YEAR!

Interested in competing in a contest or attending an event?
Talk to Ms. Brandl or Ms. Krause!



Digital FFA Calendar



2026-2027



CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



THEREFORE, AS YOU RECEIVED CHRIST JESUS THE LORD, SO WALK IN HIM, ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN HIM AND ESTABLISHED IN THE FAITH, JUST AS YOU WERE TAUGHT, ABOUNDING IN THANKSGIVING.
COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

ISSUE 1 | 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR |

Rooted in Christ for 26-27!

We've officially kicked off another school year here at Christ Lutheran and are so excited for the team, the students, and the families who choose to be here! We are blessed with a record enrollment in preschool/pre-K this year of 25 students!! We are welcoming two new staff members as well: Mrs. Dawn Beck as our middle grades teacher and Ms. Teah Meyer as our assistant preschool teacher.

Our theme this year is ROOTED IN CHRIST, based off Colossians 2:6-7. We will be walking together this year in Christ, rooted and built up in Him who establishes and grows our faith. We are truly thankful for the privilege of a Christ-centered education and so grateful to share Jesus with our students and families all across campus.

We have an exciting fall planned and have already begun our prayer partners and chapel family activities at the school. Back to School Open House night was a great time to meet all of our new families and staff, and our Project Day was a blessing for our campus! Thank you to our congregation for all of their support, and we look forward to an amazing year together!



Upcoming Dates

- **September 8th: School Picture Day - Smile pretty!**
- **September 13th: Education Sunday!**
- **September 14th: Grandparents Day**
- **September 24th: Parent Teacher Conferences**



St. John's Lutheran School Newsletter

Well, we are off and running! After what seemed to be an all-too-quick summer break, it is hard to believe we are already several weeks into a new school year. The beginning of a new year always brings a little excitement, learning new routines, adjusting schedules, and, unfortunately, a few early-season sicknesses! Through it all, our students and staff are settling into the rhythm of another school year.

We are excited to welcome new faces to our school family this year, including two kindergartners, a third grader, and an eighth grader. Our preschool and pre-kindergarten students also began classes in August with Miss Ruth and Miss Megan. We are thankful for each of our students and the unique energy and joy they bring to our school!

We are also excited to welcome several new faces teaching our special classes this year. Mrs. Kristen Fittje is teaching Art to students in K-8, Mrs. Kelly Kapels is teaching Technology to grades 4-8, Mr. Mike Johannes is teaching PE to grades 4-8, and Mrs. Karlynn Mueller is teaching Music to students in K-8. We are especially thankful to Kayla Dicke and Karlynn Mueller for continuing to lead our children's choir.

A special thank-you also goes to our volunteers, Mary Rosendahl and Sherri Rosendahl, and our support staff, Kelli Reese and Vicky Leffers. We are so grateful for the time, talents, patience, and flexibility you share with our students and teachers. Your willingness to jump in and help is truly a blessing to our school family!

Many of our calendars are overflowing; watch our school Facebook page for the most up-to-date activities and pictures of what we're up to! But as we continue settling into routines, learning, growing, and working hard each day, I am so thankful for the opportunity to serve our students and families. Thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support. We are grateful to begin another school year together and excited to see what God has in store for us as we continue to grow and learn,
Built on the Rock!



OUR LUNCH MENU IS NOW ONLINE!



**CLICK HERE
TO VIEW THE
LATEST MENU
OPTIONS**

Child Find

Lakeview Community Schools takes an active role in our students' education. According to NDE Rule 51, "All children with disabilities residing in the state, including children with disabilities who are homeless children or wards of the State and children with disabilities attending nonpublic schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, and who are in need of special education and related services, shall be identified, located, and evaluated and a practical method shall be developed and implemented to determine which children with disabilities are currently receiving needed special education and related services."

Child Find also applies to highly mobile children, including migrant children, and children who are suspected of being a child with a disability and in need of special education, despite whether the child is advancing from grade to grade.

Early Childhood Part C- Children Birth to Age 3:

Lakeview Community Schools works with our Educational Service Unit #7, specifically their early childhood team, to provide Child Find activities for children ages birth-3. The Planning Region Team serves a 7-county area around Columbus. Examples of Child Find activities include banners/brochures set up at parent-teacher conferences, literature in doctors' offices, and mailings on talking to parents to all childcare providers.

Early Childhood Part B- Ages 3-5:

Child Find is the responsibility of the public school district where the accredited non-public school resides. For a non-accredited preschool, Child Find is the responsibility of the student's home district.

Non-Public Student Child Find- School Age

Child Find is the responsibility of the public school district where the accredited non-public school resides. Contact Information and Referral Link is listed below.

For more information, please contact Jodi Behlen, Lakeview Special Education and Early Childhood Coordinator. She can be reached at the District Office located at Lakeview High School by phone at [\(402\)564-8518](tel:4025648518) or by email at jbehlen@lakeview.esu7.org.

To make a referral, please click on the appropriate link below:

[Birth - 2 years Early Intervention Referral](#)

[Children Age 3-21 Referral](#)



Lakeview Community Schools

Activities

Lakeview Community Schools Activities Calendar

NEW LINK!

*Lakeview is
now on Bound!*



Watch activities live on Striv



LAKEVIEW VIKINGS

SIDELINE STORE

FIND YOUR STYLE



**70 +
CUSTOM
DESIGNS**



**OVER
25
BRANDS**



**YOUR PURCHASE SUPPORTS THE
LAKEVIEW ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

SHOP NOW



<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/nebraska/columbus/lakeview-high-school>

COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships will be shared through the following methods of communication. If you ever have any questions about a scholarship, please reach out to Mrs. Paige Rambour at the information below.

- School email: as scholarships come through my office, I will email out the application and deadline to all seniors via their school email.
- Counselor Website: This link will take you to my scholarship website. All scholarship information will be posted here along with deadlines and eligibility information.

ACE (Access College Early) Scholarship

- Does your student qualify for free and reduced lunch and is currently taking a college or dual credit course? They could be eligible for the ACE scholarship to help cover their tuition cost.
 - <https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/access-college-early-ace-scholarship-program>

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Lakeview High School Graduation Requirements:

English.....	40 credits
Mathematics.....	30 credits
Social Studies.....	30 credits
Science.....	30 credits
Physical Education I.....	5 credits
Intro to Business Communications.....	5 credits
Info Technology Applications.....	5 credits
Information Technology Fundamentals.....	5 credits
Speech Intro.....	5 credits
Health.....	5 credits
Careers	5 credits
Personal Finance.....	5 credits
Electives.....	70 credits
TOTAL.....	240 credits

*Each semester class is worth 5 credits, with the exception of a TA or study hall

Instagram:

Stay up to date with counseling information by following @lhsvikingscounselor



I will post scholarships, events going on in the counseling department, and opportunities for students to help provide one more avenue of communication for students and parents. Follow me!

FAFSA INFORMATION



The FAFSA is expected to open October 1st, 2026

FAFSA: High School Graduation Requirement

What is the state law?

Nebraska law requires all public high school students to complete and submit a FAFSA (or actively opt out) as a graduation requirement. This is known as Universal FAFSA.

Why does this law exist?

Universal FAFSA ensures that all Nebraska seniors complete the FAFSA, unlocking federal financial aid and encouraging them to consider further education beyond high school.

Why is completing the FAFSA a graduation requirement?

Completing the FAFSA informs students about their financial aid options, enabling them to make smarter decisions about their post-secondary education.

How will this benefit Nebraska students?

In 2024, half of Nebraska graduates didn't file the FAFSA, missing out on an estimated \$27.5 million in aid. This initiative helps reach the goal of 70% of Nebraskans earning a diploma, degree, or industry credential by 2030.

Where can I direct questions about Universal FAFSA?

Contact the Nebraska Department of Education:
<https://www.education.ne.gov/fafsa>

First Steps

How to Create a Federal Student Aid Account (FSA ID)

Before you complete the FAFSA, you and the parent(s) who provided the most financial support will need to create FSA IDs.

Follow these steps:

1. Go to studentaid.gov and click on Create Account.
2. Enter personal information.
 - Both you and a parent will need individual email accounts. Don't use a high school email account.
3. Enter validation codes to confirm your mobile number and email, or set up the Authenticator App.
4. For parents without a social security number:
 - Complete the same process and click on the box indicating you do not have a social security number
 - Do not use your ITIN
5. Save your information.

Student Username: _____

Password: _____

Parent Username: _____

Password: _____

What if I choose not to complete the FAFSA?

For parents who choose not to complete the FAFSA, there will be an opt out form that will be available to families. The school will share this form with families in December after the FAFSA has been made available.

FAFSA HELP

Do you have questions or need assistance on filling out the FAFSA? EducationQuest is a great resource for Nebraska families. They have offices in Lincoln, Omaha, and Kearney, but they also do phone or virtual appointments to assist families outside of those areas. EducationQuest has put together a series of videos with details on each step of the FAFSA process. I highly encourage parents and families to view these videos and reach out to them for assistance, if needed. All EducationQuest services are free.

<https://educationquest.org/>

FALL 2026

Free Virtual College-Prep Events

EducationQuest will conduct these free virtual events.
All times are Central.

FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Wednesday, Sept. 9 | 6:30 p.m. CT

Friday, Sept. 18 | 1:00 p.m. CT

Tuesday, Sept. 22 | 10:00 a.m. CT

Monday, Sept. 28 | 6:30 p.m. CT

Wednesday, Oct. 7 | 12:00 p.m. CT

Thursday, Oct. 15 | 8:00 p.m. CT

Monday, Oct. 19 | 4:00 p.m. CT

Monday, Oct. 26 | 7:00 p.m. CT

Monday, Nov. 2 | 1:00 p.m. CT

REGISTER
HERE



FAFSA COMPLETION

Wednesday, Oct. 21 | 6:30 p.m.



EducationQuest.org

Omaha
402.391.4033
Kearney
308.234.6310

Lincoln
308.708.7191
Scottsbluff
308.417.5122



TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE DEADLINE	PHOTO UPLOAD & STANDBY DEADLINE	INITIAL SCORE RELEASE
SEP 19, 2026	AUG 14	SEP 1	SEP 14	OCT 6
OCT 17, 2026	SEP 11	SEP 29	OCT 12	OCT 27
DEC 12, 2026	NOV 6	NOV 29	DEC 7	DEC 22
FEB 27, 2027	JAN 22	FEB 9	FEB 22	MAR 16
APR 10, 2027	MAR 5	MAR 23	APR 5	APR 20
JUN 12, 2027	MAY 7	MAY 25	JUN 7	JUN 22
JUL 10, 2027*	JUN 4	JUN 22	JUL 5	JUL 20

* July testing will be available for learners in New York starting in 2027! Available Test Centers will continue to be added to registration as they become available through Spring 2027

Built on what you've learned.
Designed to reflect what you're learning in school with curriculum-aligned questions so you can show what you know from your classes.

Your test, your way
Paper or digital. Science and writing optional. Take these sections that play to your strengths.

Predictable from start to finish
A clear, straightforward exam designed to be consistent. No mid test difficulty shifts, no adaptive surprises.

Built to be improved on
See every answer with My Answer Key. Superscore your way up. Practice with free, official materials.

Register Now

OUR SCHOOL CODE:

280517



Community Resources

[Columbus Area Mental Health and Counseling Services](#)

[Community Response](#): to assist children, youth and families to be healthy and resilient through a prevention network of community resources.

[Community Response contact information:](#)

Email: rmiksche@columbusunitedway.com

Office: 402-564-5661

Locations:

1119 B Street
Schuyler, NE

3214 25th St, Ste 2
Columbus, NE

[Columbus Area Service Directory](#)

Lakeview Resources

- Need to talk to someone? Does your family have any basic needs that are not being met?

→ Mrs. Mollie Rambour, Junior High & Platte Center School Counselor

→ Mrs. Hellbusch, Shell Creek School Counselor

→ Mrs. Paige Rambour, High School Counselor

[99 Coping Skills](#)

[Mindfulness Practice Cards](#)

[101 Positive Things to Say to Myself](#)

[Your Life Your Voice Website](#)

[988 Lifeline Website](#)

Hotlines/ Helplines

Your Life Your Voice- Boystown National Hotline:

☎ 1-800-448-3000

💬 Text "Voice" to 20121

Crisis Response- use in case of an emergency or mental health crisis:

☎ (402) 564-3264

National Suicide and Crisis Hotline:

☎ 988
☎ 800-273-8255 (TALK)

DHHS Child Abuse and Neglect:

☎ 800-652-1999

211 Helpline:

☎ 2-1-1 or 402-444-6666

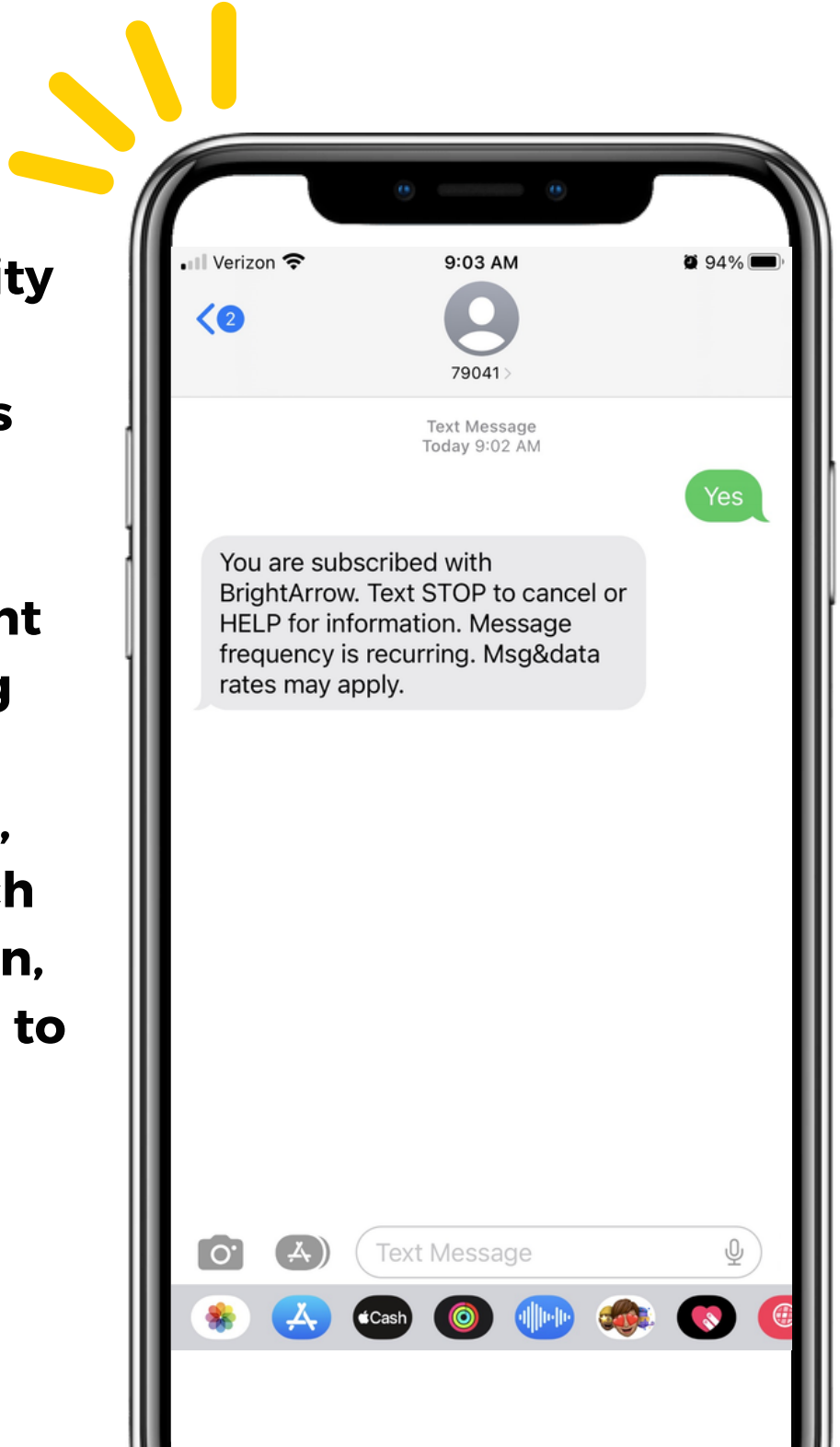
💬 Text your zip code (68601) to 898211

LAKEVIEW AUTOMATED PHONE SYSTEM

The simplest way to stay connected!

**Lakeview Community
Schools wants to
ensure everyone is
connected!**

**To receive important
updates regarding
school closings,
schedule changes,
school events, lunch
account information,
and more text "YES" to
79041**



VISTA AL LAGO AUTOMATIZADA SISTEMA TELEFÓNICO

¡La forma más sencilla de mantenerse conectado!

**¡Las Escuelas
Comunitarias de
Lakeview quieren
asegurarse de que todos
estén conectados!**

**Para recibir
actualizaciones
importantes sobre cierres
de escuelas, cambios de
horario, eventos
escolares, información de
la cuenta de almuerzo y
más, envíe "SÍ" al 79041.**

