

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



SEPTEMBER
2026

Student Enrollment as of September 8, 2026

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT
Mill Pond Elementary School	634
Cedar Creek Elementary School	452
Forked River Elementary School	449
Lanoka Harbor Elementary School	437
Lacey Township Middle School	820
Lacey Township High School	1026
Special Education (Out-of-District)	32
*OCVTS – M.A.T.E.S.	27
*OCVTS – Performing Arts Academy	22
*OCVTS – Academy Law & Public Safety	16
TOTAL	3,915

September 2026

Seniors of the Month

ALYSSA B. BROOKS

CARSON P. BRASH

Vocational Senior of the Month

ALEXANDER F. TALBOT

Unsung Hero

KATE I. REYNOLDS

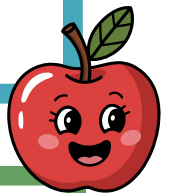


Mill Pond News

WELCOME

First Day Excitement!

On September 8th, 2026, Mill Pond welcomed 633 PreSchool and Kindergarten students into the building. Students arrived happy and excited to be at school. There were introductions, classroom explorations, and lots of new things to learn. For many this is the first time in school beginning their educational journey in Lacey!



It's All About the Bus!

One of our greatest adventures has been the bus. Many of our students have never ridden the bus before so we gathered together in our community room and talked about bus safety during our very first assembly. Thanks to the transportation department, we borrowed a bus seat and talked about the importance of using our seat belts and sitting properly. They are ready for the year!

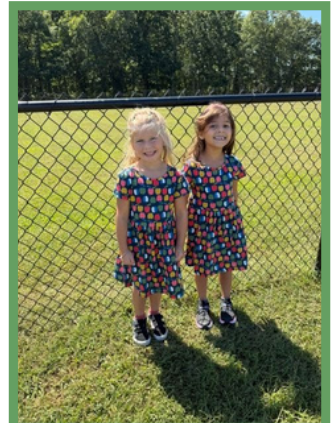
PTA Fun!

Our 2026 - 2027 school year began with our annual and very successful PTA event called "Chalk the Walk." Parents brought their sidewalk chalk and their creativity on the day before school began as they created wonderful pieces of artwork containing positive messages for their child.



Recess Fun

The first week was filled with meeting new friends, learning about routines, and enjoying the playground for recess and gross motor. The swings, tricycles are a huge hit! We also found friends that were matching!



Cedar Creek News



We would like to thank our staff, students, and families for helping make the start of the school year such a wonderful success! We were thrilled to welcome our students back to Cedar Creek on September 8th and are excited for all that the year ahead has in store.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the staff of the Lacey Township School District for their hard work and dedication throughout the summer in preparing Cedar Creek for the start of another great school year. Their efforts helped ensure that our students and staff returned to a welcoming and ready-to-learn environment.

We would also like to thank our CCS PTA for their hard work and planning for the start of the school year!

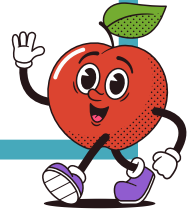


A special thank you goes to our custodial staff for working tirelessly to get the building ready for our students and staff, including repainting our Multi-purpose Room and helping make Cedar Creek look its best.

Forked River News

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

The Forked River School staff would like to extend our appreciation to our students and their families as well as all departments of the Lacey Township School District and the Lacey Township Board of Education for everyone's collaborative effort in preparing for the start to the 2026-2027 school year.



A Great First Day at the Forked River School!



It is exciting to have our historic school building and playground bustling with learning and fun!

On behalf of all of us at the Forked River School we wish everyone a great school year!

Go Lions!

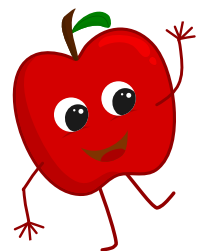


Lanoka Harbor News



We are thrilled to welcome our students and staff back for what promises to be another exciting and successful school year! Nothing quite compares to the energy and excitement that fills our hallways as students return and a new year begins. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our amazing office staff and custodians, whose hard work and dedication ensured that our school was ready to welcome everyone on opening day. We are equally grateful to our talented teachers, who put so much time, care, and creativity into preparing beautiful and welcoming classrooms for their students.

This year, we are especially excited to welcome our first-grade students as they join our school community! We look forward to watching them learn, grow, make new friends, and create wonderful memories throughout the year. A special thank you also goes to our incredible PTO for their continued generosity and support, including purchasing planners and folders for our students. We are so fortunate to have such a caring and supportive school community, and we look forward to a fantastic year filled with learning, laughter, and many reasons to celebrate!



Middle School News



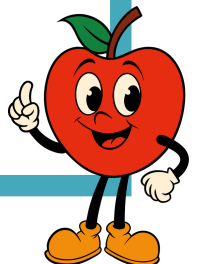
On September 3rd, the 6th grade orientation took place during the day, with a strong turnout of families in attendance.

We are pleased to report that our staff has returned to school ready and excited to start the new school year. We would like to extend a special thank you to the LTMS PTC for organizing a wonderful welcome back breakfast for our staff. In addition, the PTC is currently running a school supply drive. Their continued support and dedication to our school community is greatly appreciated. The next PTC meeting will be held on October 7th at 6:00PM.

On September 8th, we welcomed back our 6th, 7th and 8th graders to the building and it has been a joy to see their smiling faces back in the hallways. We had a smooth opening and there was a lot of positive energy in the building. SPS has introduced themselves to all of their students. Middle School sports have officially started, and we want to wish all of our fall athletes the best of luck in their upcoming games and competitions.

Middle School Back to School Night will take place on Thursday, September 24th at 5:30PM. Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and learn more about the curriculum and expectations of the school year.

The Student Council is excited to host the Back to School Bash — a fun-filled dance for all grades to come together, reconnect, and celebrate the start of a brand-new school year. Let's make memories, share laughs, and kick off the year with joy and unity! Additionally, the Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled to take place Monday, September 28 - Friday, October 2nd. This book fair will be held on the cafeteria stage. Family night will take place on September 30th in the evening.



High School News

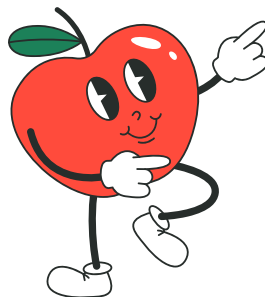
Welcome

Welcome Back, LTHS!

The 2026–2027 school year is officially underway at Lacey Township High School! Our hallways are once again filled with energy, excitement, and the familiar sounds of students and staff getting back into the rhythm of a new school year.

We look forward to a year filled with learning, achievement, school spirit, and plenty of opportunities for our LTHS students to grow and succeed.

Lacey, let's make it a great year!



SENIOR OF THE MONTH

ALYSSA B. BROOKS

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded Alyssa Brooks as our Senior of the Month for September 2026. It is truly an honor to stand before you today as we recognize an outstanding student for her dedication, hard work, and incredible contributions to both her school and community.

Alyssa is a four-year member of the Leadership and Humanities (LAH) Academy, where she has had the opportunity to develop her leadership skills, strengthen her ability to collaborate with others, and explore issues beyond the traditional classroom setting. Her time in LAH has helped her grow as a confident and thoughtful leader while encouraging her to take on challenges and make meaningful contributions to her school and community.

Alyssa has also demonstrated exceptional leadership and technical skills through her involvement with Digital Media. During her junior year, she served as the Operations Manager for Digital Media, taking on an important role in the organization and production of the program. Now, as a senior, Alyssa has advanced to the position of Station Manager, where she has embraced an even greater level of responsibility and leadership. Her progression through these positions reflects not only her dedication to the program, but also the trust that others place in her ability to lead, organize, and contribute to the success of her peers.

Her involvement extends beyond Digital Media and into the performing arts. Since her sophomore year, Alyssa has served as the Sound Manager for drama productions. This role requires technical knowledge, preparation, dependability, and the ability to remain focused behind the scenes while supporting the success of an entire production. Alyssa has consistently taken on this responsibility with professionalism and dedication, becoming an important part of the production team.

Academically, Alyssa has continued to challenge herself while balancing her many extracurricular commitments. She has been a member of the National Honor Society since her junior year, demonstrating her commitment to scholarship, leadership, service, and character. She is also a student in the OCC Academy, further demonstrating her willingness to pursue opportunities that challenge her academically and prepare her for her future.

Alyssa has also begun gaining valuable real-world experience through internships with MK Productions. These experiences have provided her with an opportunity to apply her skills in a professional setting while further exploring her interests in media and production. Her willingness to seek out these opportunities demonstrates initiative and a desire to continue learning beyond the classroom.

Alyssa represents the qualities we hope to see in a Lacey Township High School senior. She is a dedicated student, a capable and emerging leader, and a talented contributor to the many programs that make our school community special. Her willingness to take on responsibility, challenge herself, and support the success of others makes her highly deserving of being named our Senior of the Month. Alyssa, thank you for everything you do. We are lucky to have you in our community.

SENIOR OF THE MONTH

CARSON P. BRASH

The administration and faculty of Lacey Township High School have enthusiastically awarded Carson Brash as our Senior of the Month for September 2026. It is an honor to speak on behalf of Carson, a student who has made an outstanding mark on our school community through hard work, dedication, and perseverance.

Carson is a four-year member of the Leadership and Humanities (LAH) Academy, where he has continually developed his leadership skills and gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be a positive and effective leader. Through the academy, Carson has participated in a variety of meaningful experiences and projects, including visits to courthouses, participating in a mock trial, and researching and identifying areas of national concern. These opportunities have challenged him to think critically, work collaboratively, and approach issues with maturity and a strong sense of responsibility.

Beyond the classroom, Carson demonstrates an exceptional commitment to service and his community. He volunteers an average of five hours each week at Empower Equestrian Horse Facility in New Egypt, New Jersey. Throughout the school year, Carson dedicates his Saturdays to volunteering at the facility, making the weekly commute a significant commitment. His work involves daily interaction with horses and animal care, responsibilities that have helped him develop and demonstrate consistency, patience, attention to detail, and a strong work ethic. Carson approaches these responsibilities with enthusiasm and reliability, understanding that the care of animals requires both dedication and compassion.

Carson is also a proud member of the National Honor Society, where he continues to exemplify the values of scholarship, leadership, character, and service. In addition, he serves on the Board as the Job Fair Coordinator, taking on the responsibility of helping organize an important opportunity for fellow students to explore career and future educational possibilities. Through this role, Carson has demonstrated initiative, organization, and a willingness to contribute to the success of his peers.

Adding to his many commitments, Carson successfully manages a rigorous academic courseload. Balancing challenging classes with his leadership responsibilities, extracurricular involvement, community service, and volunteer work is no small accomplishment. His ability to remain dedicated and successful across all of these areas speaks volumes about his time management, determination, and perseverance.

Carson represents the qualities we hope to see in a Lacey Township High School senior. He is a hardworking student, a committed leader, a dedicated volunteer, and a positive presence within our school community. His willingness to challenge himself, serve others, and continually grow as a leader makes him highly deserving of this recognition.

Congratulations to Carson on being named our Senior of the Month for September 2026. We are proud to recognize his accomplishments and look forward to seeing all that he will continue to achieve in the future.

VOCATIONAL SENIOR OF THE MONTH

ALEXANDER F. TALBOT

Dedication, self motivation, and determination are only a few of the outstanding qualities that sets Alexander apart from his peers. Alexander strives to do his best and accomplishes anything he sets his mind to with great success.

Alexander is actively involved in school. He is a three year varsity football player. He has also demonstrated a strong commitment to academics while balancing the demands of being a competitive athlete. He has maintained a solid 3.55 GPA and was on the Honor Roll throughout the entire last school year. Before enrolling in Ocean County Vocational School, Alexander was enrolled in the STEM program, where he developed a strong foundation in problem-solving, critical thinking, and technical skills.

Alexander has also excelled in his vocational education, where he is studying Heavy Equipment operations. He is a hands-on learner who enjoys working with tools, machinery, and real-world projects. He is creative, mechanically minded, and takes pride in figuring out how things work and finding solutions to challenges. These qualities demonstrate his ability to learn both inside and outside of the classroom.

On the football field, Alexander has proven himself to be a dedicated and accomplished athlete. He was named a First Team All-Division player and received the prestigious Lombardi Award, recognizing him as one of the top linemen on the Shore. These accomplishments reflect not only his physical ability, but also his discipline, toughness, work ethic, leadership, and commitment to his teammates.

Alexander has a clear ambition to continue playing football at the college level. He understands that reaching that goal will require continued effort in the classroom, in the weight room, and on the field. He has shown that he is willing to put in that work and continue developing as both a student and an athlete.

What stands out most about Alexander is his combination of academic ability, vocational skills, athletic achievement, creativity, and determination. He is someone who learns by doing, accepts challenges, and works hard to accomplish his goals. I am confident that he will bring the same dedication and competitive spirit to whatever opportunity comes next.

He is destined for greatness! Alexander is wished the best as he continues his education and sincere congratulations on being chosen as September's Vocational Student of the Month.

UNSUNG HERO

KATE I. REYNOLDS

September's Unsung Hero is Kate Reynolds. Kate is an incredible student who shows constant dedication towards her own success as well as the success of those around her. She demonstrates kindness and understanding to her peers, and is always looking to lend a hand. She shows academic excellence as a part of the National Honor Society. Kate is a student enrolled in the OCC Academy, and consistently puts her best foot forward. Kate is also an incredibly supportive teammate on both the women's soccer and women's lacrosse team, where she is a natural leader and mentor. Her role in Interact club has made a lasting impact on both her peers at school, and a lasting impact on the entire community around her.

What makes Kate stand out is her unwavering ability to show compassion and empathy to everyone around her. She has always provided both diligence and ambition in the classroom that does not go unnoticed. Congratulations Kate, you have earned every bit of this recognition.