District Highlights & Progress: A Monthly Update from the Superintendent

DR. LAURA A. WINTERS, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER 18, 2026

Student Enrollment

(November 16, 2026)

School	Number of Students
Spruce Street School	288
Oak Street School	688
Clifton Avenue Grade School	734
Lakewood Middle School	707
Lakewood High School	1,020
Total	**3,437**
Mixed Delivery Preschool	89
Adult High School	7
Out-of-District (OOD)	465
Total	**3,998**

Student Transfers
(as of November 16, 2026)

- Number of students who transferred out:
  - November - 20
- Number of NEW students who enrolled in the District:
  - November - 30

Paraprofessional Staffing Update

The District continues to face a significant paraprofessional shortage.

DAILY OPERATIONAL CHALLENGE

- The paraprofessional shortage affects student supervision, classroom safety, instructional continuity, and the consistent implementation of IEP-required supports.

- These challenges are most significant in specialized classrooms, where many students require consistent routines and individualized academic, behavioral, mobility, communication, or personal-care assistance.

On Tonight's Agenda:

The Board is being asked to approve the hiring of up to 15 full-time paraprofessionals to provide consistent, reliable support in special education classrooms.

- Part-time recruitment and third-party staffing vendors have been unable to consistently fill paraprofessional vacancies.
- Reliable staffing is essential to support student safety, implement Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), and deliver mandated special education services.
- All 165 paraprofessionals who received reduction-in-force (RIF) notices were offered the opportunity to return. Approximately 95 declined.

As of today, the District has rehired **65 full-time paraprofessionals** to fill the **72 approved full-time positions**. This action will allow the district to offer full time employment to the 7 part time district paraprofessionals and 15 new hires.
Total Full Time Paraprofessionals when all approve positions are filled will be: **87**

Non-Public 407-1's Submitted since July 1, 2026 through November 13, 2026

- 192 Comp Ed. Math – 22,923
- 192 Comp Ed. Lang. Arts – 23,489
- 192 ESL – 5,737
- 193 Supplemental Instruction – 2,163
- 193 Speech – 4,026

Total 407-1s Submitted to date: 58,338

Source: Grants Office

School Security Update

Required September Drills

- All Lakewood Public Schools completed their required monthly fire drill and Shelter-in-Place, Bomb Threat drill for the month of November.

Happy Thanksgiving




THANK
YOU