

Hello Lakewood Middle School Family!

It continues to be an honor and privilege to serve as the principal of such a commendable and student-centered learning community. The beginning of a school year is truly a special time and a fresh start. I look forward to partnering with you as we nurture all students to successfully grow academically and socially. We have a team of exceptionally talented and committed staff that is anchored by a supportive Central Office Administration and Board of Education.

Our staff has worked diligently to develop a more challenging academic schedule, participated in professional learning opportunities, realigned curriculum and planned lessons for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. To ensure that our students are receiving a developmentally appropriate, challenging and outcome-driven middle school experience, we are departmentalized in all grade levels. This allows us to assign students to highly qualified core subject teachers. Such a staff can more effectively deliver challenging grade level curriculum which will not only better meet the academic needs of students, but it will also facilitate necessary growth on the ACT, the 8th grade PSAT and the state M-STEP assessments. This preparation in the 5th through 8th grade allows more students to take advantage of the high school credit classes in Algebra 1, Algebra II and German and Spanish that are offered at the middle school. We are currently also offering virtual classes throughout the school day for those students who are looking for more variety in learning opportunities.

Lakewood Middle School continues to grow in the offering of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math- based curriculum) opportunities. STEM has developed into a 7th and 8th grade accelerated class for the students who have demonstrated excellence in math and science. This elective focuses on technology and engineering concepts being applied in the global working environment. Students will complete the class with improved problem-solving, creative thinking, and presentation skills. This has been an exciting and challenging addition to Lakewood Middle School opportunities.

Lakewood Middle School provides a large variety of extracurricular activities. These aid the curious, often awkward and insecure, energetic, ever-changing middle school adolescent to achieve growth in critical social and emotional skills. Such activities range from music and band to Destination Imagination teams, athletics, and robotics among a wide variety of clubs. Any parents or students seeking more information on the extracurricular opportunities are invited to contact the school. We are always looking for ways to engage students in healthy extensions of the classroom.

If you have any questions or need additional information, our service-oriented staff is ready to assist you. **Go, Junior Vikes!**

Kellie Rowland, Principal

<u>Email Link</u>





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