

WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY POLICY
LAKWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Website Specifications

It is the policy of the Lakewood Public Schools (“District”) to ensure that its website and online content is accessible to all audiences and, when the District receives notice that the website or online content is not accessible, to promptly address the concerns.

This policy applies to all webpages hosted on the District’s servers, whether created by schools, departments, staff, students, or other persons. The District will use W3C’s Web Content Accessibility Guidelines to determine whether the online content is accessible. The District will use WCAG 2.0 and Level AA standard to determine conformance.

“Accessible” as used in this Policy means a person with a disability is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally effective and equally integrated manner, with substantially equivalent ease of use. A person with a disability must be able to obtain the information as fully, equally, and independently as a person without a disability. Although this might not result in identical ease of use compared to that of persons without disabilities, it still must ensure equal opportunity to the educational benefits and opportunities afforded by the technology and equal treatment in the use of such technology.

Third Party Web Content & Future Website Compliance

The District will perform accessibility audits at regular intervals to ensure continued accessibility.

As part of ensuring accessibility, the District will undertake efforts to verify that the online content and information obtained through, provided, or developed by third parties is accessible as defined by this Policy. All district staff responsible for creating and distributing online content through the District’s website must ensure that any use of online content or third-party websites, services, or products is accessible. District staff will ensure that any use of online content or third-party websites, services, or products is accessible by speaking with vendors and running accessibility tests prior to adding third party material. In the event certain material cannot be made accessible, that material will not be used by the District.

Annual Training

The District will provide annual training for any staff responsible for creating or distributing online content to students, employees, guests, and visitors with disabilities, including, but not limited to, training on this Policy and their roles and responsibilities to ensure that web design, documents, and multimedia content are accessible. The training will be facilitated, in whole or in part, by an individual with sufficient knowledge, skill, and experience to understand and employ the technical standards adopted by the District.

Accessibility Audit

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An accessibility audit will be completed annually under the direction of the Web Accessibility Coordinator. During each audit, information provided by the District through its online content is measured against the W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. All problems identified through the Audit will be documented, evaluated, and, if necessary, remediated within a reasonable period of time.

Web Accessibility Coordinator

The Board of Education delegates to the Web Accessibility Coordinator the authority to take steps necessary to coordinate and implement this Policy. The District's Web Accessibility Coordinator is:

Valerie Behm
Director of Marketing & Communications/Web Accessibility Coordinator
223 W Broadway
Woodland, Michigan 48897
Phone: 616-374-8043
Fax: 616-374-8858
behmval@lakewoodps.org

Reporting Violations

If you cannot fully access the information on any District webpage, please contact the Web Accessibility Coordinator to report the accessibility issue you are having. The District will take action to provide the information in an alternate format or make the necessary improvements to make the information accessible.

You may also report a violation of the technical standards used by the District and/or file a formal complaint through the Section 504 and Title II grievance procedure.

Superintendent
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