



THE VIKING VIEW

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www.lakewoodps.org



VARSITY SOCCER TEAM SET A VIKING VICTORY AS THEIR GOAL

Lakewood Boys Soccer Team Wins League Trophy

Lakewood High School boys' soccer team won the league championship, 9 – 0 versus the GLAC, and brought home the trophy. Under the leadership of Coach James Leveque, the team finished a strong season with a 17-1-1, losing in the second round of districts. For the first time since the GLAC was founded, a team other than Lansing Christian was the outright winner of the conference and that was Lakewood!

"The team had a good idea before the season started that they would be strong competitors," stated Mike Quinn, Lakewood Athletic Director. "Following the success of last year and the strides they made, the team continued to practice hard all summer, they put in the time and the needed work. They were ready when the bell rang", said Quinn. Their tenacity and persistence paid off because they bonded as a team and shared in one another's success. Through the season, players learned and recognized the individual talents that each person brought to the table. They worked together, building upon on one another's strengths, and stepped up where needed.

Jim Leveque has coached Lakewood's boys' soccer team for quite some time. "He knows the players, their strengths and weaknesses, and he understands what makes them tick", commented Quinn. Coach Leveque coaches with integrity, sportsmanship, provides mentorship that helps them hone their skill development on the field, and supports them in realizing their potential. His players know that teamwork is all about collaborating with others to reach a common goal. He puts his athletes in a position to succeed and encourages freedom to play the game.

We are proud of the work of our soccer team and their coach for working hard toward victory, putting in the time on the field, in the classroom, and for bringing home the hardware. Their achievements represent the hallmarks of Way to go Vikings!

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NEWS

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATE OF THE DISTRICT

It is said, "if you stand still there is only one way to go, and that is backwards." As superintendent, when I think about that statement, I think about instruction and infrastructure. We must continue to stay current instructionally to provide our students similar or superior opportunities that will prepare them to be successful in both post-secondary education and their chosen career paths. We must also regularly maintain our school buildings and facilities that serve students' co- and extra-curricular programs or they will fall into disrepair – go backwards.

These can be difficult objectives to achieve if you are not looking forward, strategically planning, and being good stewards of the public's money. At its October 25th meeting, the Board of Education took another step along this path by beginning the process of refinancing District bond debt. A district refinances its debt to 1) achieve savings by locking in lower interest rates and 2) increase its ability to issue new bonds and raise additional revenue without raising the tax burden on its community.

The District is working with an architectural/engineering firm (TMP) and construction management firm (Granger) to develop a proposal to keep the District moving forward – to provide instructional spaces that inspire student interest and inquiry from our youngest learners to those preparing for college and careers and to complete necessary infrastructure projects like replacing roofs that are nearing the end of their lifespan – all without raising property taxes.

Representatives of TMP and Granger will be presenting initial information to the Board at their November 22nd meeting (7:00 pm LHS Auditorium). We will be posting the information presented on the district website and encourage everyone to stay involved as we move forward together.

Thank you for your continued support,

Steven C. Skalka
Superintendent of Schools

superintendent's

SHOUT OUT

Viking Food Service Team



And the Superintendent's SHOUT OUT goes to Lakewood's Food Service Team. Every school day, hungry kids file through our cafeterias, met with smiles and a delicious breakfast and lunch to sustain them through a day of learning. Amid the challenges of a stretched supply chain, labor shortages, and delivery disruptions, Lakewood's stellar food service team keeps things cooking. They adapt menus based upon unpredictable availability of food supplies, and hustle when short-staffed in order to serve up healthy, nutritional meals. This valuable work is critical to our mission of preparing students for success.

BOARD'S BULLETIN

Lakewood Board of Ed working for you



Mrs. Jami Manszewski has always been passionate about supporting the community in which she lives. That support began with Lakewood Public Schools when she and her husband sent their oldest child off for his first day of kindergarten in 2019. From that point she and her husband began their involvement and support for their children's teachers, classrooms, and schools. "It was then I realized there is much more to the "big" picture", stated Manszewski. "I became more aware of needs, possible solutions and

opportunities in Lakewood. I also had a great opportunity to participate in the 2019 Lakewood Strategic Planning Workshop, in which I learned more of how our district is unique in many ways." As a 2-term Planning Commissioner of the Village of Clarksville, she gained the experience needed to serve as a school board member. Jami and her husband have lived in the community for 13 years, and have two children in our district. They are also local business owners, owning two businesses that have operated in our community for 10 years. Her goal through Board service is to be a part of a "bridge" for all of our small communities to act as one for the district. She looks forward to joining in the work of continued communication, creating positive solutions, and supporting students to prepare them for future success. Jami is committed to serving, listening, and working with the Lakewood community to help strengthen our district for our students and staff.

UPCOMING REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

November 22, 2021 & December 13, 2021

LHS Media Center, 7 p.m.

FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH HEATS UP LEARNING

Woodland Township Fire Department Show Students that Firefighters are Friends



We heated up learning for Lakewood Early Childhood Center during Fire Prevention Month. The experience is designed to raise fire safety awareness and teach our little Vikings what to do in case of an emergency. Each classroom incorporated different stories, activities, crafts, and treats into their lessons so that students can learn at an early age that fire is not for play. They also learn how to protect themselves if they come into contact with fire. The culminating fun at the end of the week is a visit to Woodland's Fire Barn to see first-hand what the job of a firefighter is and build understanding that firefighters are friends. Students were thrilled and ready to spray the official fire hose. Lakewood Early Childhood Center students and staff are grateful to the Woodland Township Fire Department and first responders for keeping our community safe and for partnering with schools to teach our young learners about fire prevention.



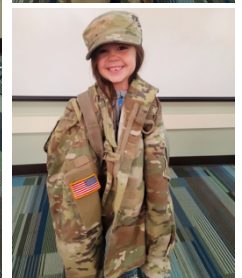
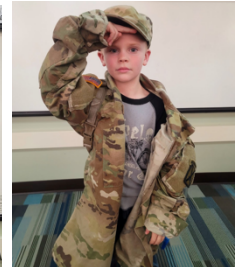
FALL FARM FUN AT GULL MEADOW FARMS

Little Vikings Enjoy Pure Michigan

Lakewood Early Childhood Center kindergarten students basked in a beautiful Pure Michigan fall day at Gull Meadow Farms. Our little Vikings enjoyed a cool wagon ride through the woods, picked fresh apples, and snacked on delicious donuts and apple cider. As they picked their very own special pumpkins, they learned about how pumpkins grow and are harvested in a hands-on way. This extra-curricular learning trip correlated with their classroom study of seeds, apples, and pumpkins. We appreciate community partners like Gull Meadow Farms for providing learning opportunities that help educate students about the world around them.

Lakewood Early Elementary Celebrates Local Veterans Salutes, Tributes and Teaching About Veterans Day

Lakewood Early Childhood Center paid special tribute to our Veterans on November 11. Ms. Wallace's class took time through the week to learn about all the different branches of our military and what it means to be a veteran. They wrote thank you letters to a local service member and crafted a beautiful display for the whole school to see. Many staff members at Lakewood Early Childhood Center are proud military moms! Their children are serving in the military; we call them our heroes: Mrs. Flessner's son Doug in the Coast Guard; Mrs. Chase's son Jason in the Army, and Ms. Becky's two son-in-law's. Ms. Amy has two sons in the Army, her oldest son Kevin is a Captain 71F, and her other son Scott served as a wheel mechanic in Afghanistan. November 11, Veterans Day, is just one day to honor those past and present who put our freedom and protection above their own. We are mindful and grateful every day for our veterans.



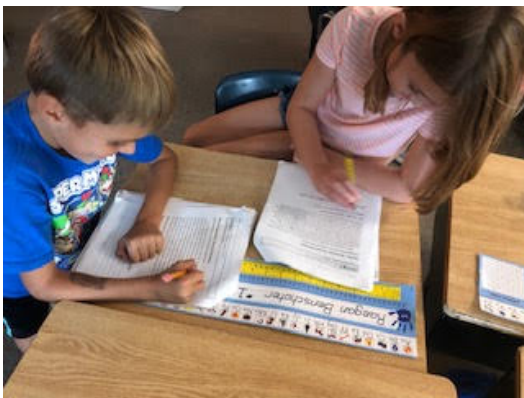
Be Nice. Be Safe. Work Hard.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SUPPORTS IS OUR MESSAGE



Lakewood Elementary students started off the year with a PBIS celebration assembly. PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral and Intervention Supports; a framework for creating proactive and positive school-wide expectations. During the first few weeks of school, teachers and staff reviewed the school-wide expectations: Be Nice, Be Safe and Work Hard. The assembly promoted these expectations and encouraged students to earn PBIS tickets for positive behaviors to be entered into a drawing every week. Students can win lunch with staff or teachers, popsicles with a friend, making slime, candy, playing a game or lunch on the stage. New this year students can save tickets to earn bigger rewards such as: Popsicles for their class; Helping staff/ teachers; Reading a book to a class; Wearing a hat to school, or sitting in the teacher's chair for the day.

PBIS recognizes that students can only meet behavior expectations if they know what the expectations are. Everyone learns what's considered appropriate behavior and they use common language to talk about it.



PARTNER READ-ALoud PRODUCES FLUENCY

Mrs. Langmaack's 3rd Grade Students Partner Up for Progress

Third grade students at LES are working hard practicing their oral reading fluency with partners. The focus is on appropriate phrasing and pausing, appropriate expression, and articulation at a good pace and audible volume. The more students read aloud the better their oral reading fluency is.

Students are also learning how to annotate a text in order to improve comprehension. Students annotate questions, observations, surprising information, unknown words, as well as figurative language as they read. Keep up the great work!!

MR. MARTIN EXPLAINS HOW ICE FISHING IS THE "COOLEST" SPORT

The Fishing Instructor Visits Lakewood Elementary 4th Grade



Our local angling expert and former educator, Mr. Martin, shared rich wisdom about the adventures of ice fishing. Mr. Martin knows that preparation, safety, and a regard for Mother Nature are the first steps to fishing fun. The lesson began with how to properly dress for the sport of ice fishing and was reinforced with a demonstration of how the proper gear keeps you dry and warm. He showed eager 4th graders how gloves can be warm, but not always waterproof. "Where does heat leave your body?" he asked. A confident student responded, "Your head!", which was a perfect intro to discuss the importance of wearing a good hat when out on the ice. Next, he provided all of the critical safety tips surrounding the sport of ice fishing like how to test the ice, the 4-inch ice rule, wearing a whistle, and being well prepared. A burst of excitement filled the room when Mr. Martin brought on the gear including ice fishing poles, tip-ups, wax worms, scoopers, ice spuds, augers, and bobbers. "Having all the right tackle is essential and can make all the difference to hooking that fish" said Martin. Thank you, Mr. Martin, for giving so much back and keeping your respect and love of nature alive through generations of Lakewood students. Now more than ever, guest teachers and the spirit of volunteering to support student learning is needed.

Middle School Musicians Host Fall Concert Performances

LAKWOOD STUDENTS BRING MORE THAN MUSIC



In October, the Lakewood Middle School Choir and Band programs, respectively, held their first in-person performances since February 2020. The music selections of the Middle School Choir program were correlated with the theme of “man versus nature and man versus himself.” The sixth grade chorus focused on man versus nature by singing the song Storm by Desjardins, an arrangement of Walking on Sunshine, Child of the Universe by Craig Cassils, and an arrangement of “This is Me.” The seventh and eighth grade choirs explored man versus himself by singing She’s Like the Swallow by Carl Strommen, arrangements of High Hopes and Man in the Mirror, and finishing with the song Hands United in Peace, by Jay Althouse. Choir teacher Mrs. Elizabeth Bayer said, “The performance was most of the students’ first time singing on stage in front of a live audience. They rose to the occasion and presented themselves with professionalism and energy!” Our Middle School Band program, led by Mrs. Ericka Mitchell and assisted by Mr. Adam Noeail, chose pieces that embodied spooky sounds in honor of Halloween! The 7th grade band treated the audience to Mark Williams’ Pirate’s Cave, Brian Balmages’ Midnight Sky, Dance of the Jabberwocky by Rob Grice and finished with the theme from Jurassic Park. The 8th grade band delighted the crowd with Asturias, William Owens’ Of Gentle Spirit, Furioso by Robert W. Smith, James Curnow’s The Mighty Nile, and ended the show with Alien Invasion by David Gorham. Mrs. Mitchell said, “I am extremely impressed with their performance. They had a full sound as such young musicians and a nice balance as an ensemble. We are looking forward to more performances throughout the year.” Three seventh grade students, and six eighth grade students participated in Solo & Ensemble at Calvin Christian. We are thankful that Lakewood students are growing in skill and a love for music through these opportunities. The applaud of a proud audience confirmed that middle school musicians bring more than music.

#SQUADGOALS: LHS Peer Mentorship, Providing Support, Transferring Knowledge



When Mrs. Hickey, one of LMS’ incredible social workers, came to us with the idea of bringing some of our high school students over to work with our middle school kids, we jumped at the chance. The last two years of pandemic learning have resulted in varied methods of instruction for many of our students and the transition this year back into a more “normal” school year has had its challenges. Our staff is doing a tremendous job of building relationships with our kids, but we needed and wanted something more. One solution: peer mentorship. Peer mentorship has proven benefits for both the mentors and mentees. We started out slowly with several LHS Viking Squad members coming over for our “Day of Awesomeness” in September to help supervise the obstacle courses. Last month, sixteen HS Viking Squad members came over to take our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders through an anti-bully lesson. Several Squad members took the helm in each of four elective classes, and, with a combination of whole group

and small group instruction, they used videos as a springboard to identify what bullying looks like and how to be an up stander rather than a bystander. Our kids had an opportunity to exercise empathy and identify how those being bullied might feel and ways to step up and step in when bullying occurs. Junior Viking Squad member Izzy Wheeler said, “I wish I had the opportunity to meet with high school students when I was in middle school. It would have been nice to have an older role model to look up to,” and Junior Alli Pickard said, “It was great to interact with the middle school students. I enjoyed the discussions we had. Talking about what it means to be a good friend and student was very meaningful to me.” The lesson ended with all of our kids signing an anti-bullying contract. We are planning on hosting the Viking Squad once a month over the coming year to lead a variety of lessons designed to meet the social-emotional needs of our MS kids. Peer mentoring is another “tool” in our “tool belt” to help our kids build character and navigate the challenges that being in middle school brings.

VIKINGS ON THE PATH FOR BRIGHT FUTURES

College & Career Readiness Week in Lakewood



The Counseling Department is proud to announce a successful completion of their first annual “Futures Week.” In October, the School Counseling Department highlighted a variety of career opportunities open to students. They promoted fun and creative spirit wear days, such as wearing green to represent the money students can earn by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and also shared an end-of-the-day announcement related to the theme of the day. The “*Show me the money, wear green day*” focused on how completing the FAFSA can, among other things, actually secure student jobs while in college to help pay their way! Fun fact, most families that earn less than \$200,000 qualify for at least some federal financial aid, and those that earn more may still qualify based on their unique situations. Not only were there fun topics and activities during Futures Week, also meetings with each of the high school grade levels were held so students could begin their Educational Development Plans which are self-guided journeys of career exploration. This process allowed them to take a critical look at their future and guide them toward identifying college and career paths that meet their aptitudes, desires, and capabilities. Concluding the end of futures week, seniors met with counselors during their English class to provide support as they applied to a college or training program of their choice. This year it is mandatory for all graduating seniors to complete an application for some sort of formal training post-high school graduation. Though they may choose not to attend, the School Counseling Department believes it’s imperative that all students understand that continued education is an option open to them.

The finale of the festivities was an interactive presentation regarding financial aid, hosted on Zoom by the Michigan Department of Treasury, MI Student Aid department. There was a healthy turnout of interested parents and support staff members. A recording is now available at www.lakewoodps.org/lhsounseling. The week was a resounding success and the School Counseling Department continues work to offer creative ways to build student and community participation in programs that have a direct positive impact on student success.

MAKING HOMECOMING MEMORIES

2021 Theme Brought Out the Kids in Them All



Homecoming 2021 was a very successful week. We had amazing participation during our spirit week, on any day between 200-400 students participated. Our homecoming assembly went fun and was filled with school spirit. Students signed up to participate in games competing against grade levels to win class points. All Homecoming floats were on display at the game and featured a theme of “Children’s Shows.” This year a “People’s Choice” style vote was added and the Senior class won both the judge’s and people’s choice vote. The people’s choice vote raised \$1,161, which was donated to the “Community Christmas Basket” program. After a week of excitement at the football game, Zac Gibson and Halei Blizzard were crowned as 2021 Homecoming King and Queen. Our Vikings danced the night away at the always exciting Homecoming dance!

VIKING FALL '21 SPORT REPORT The 2021 Fall Sports season has created some of the best moments in Lakewood history but it will probably be remembered most for being a small part of bringing back “normal” to LHS and the Lakewood Community in general. After nearly 18 months of abnormal events, the fall season “Tailgate Night” brought a new meaning and perhaps a new “Normal” to our “Meet the Team” night. All attendees were welcomed with music, food, drinks, and individual introductions designed to create an all-inclusive togetherness to the athletic department. Student-athletes were also given t-shirts that said “We Are Lakewood” which gets them into each of our events for free. Our return to normal has been a welcome addition to the entire student body, not just in the opportunity to attend events, but also in participating. This fall has seen 37 more students involved in fall sports than last fall, even with less student enrollment.

Cross Country: Although numbers may seem low in cross country, drive and work ethic are really up. This season has seen every member of both the boys’ and girls’ team run a personal best time with nearly every runner running better times in every meet this year than their previous best time from prior years.

Football: The football team has seen many parts of the state. Outside our normal league slate, the team

traveled south to Battle Creek and northwest to Harbor Springs. The team wrapped-up league play 4-1 to finish in second place behind only Olivet.

Golf: For the first time since the GLAC was founded Lakewood did not win the league in girls’ golf. Not to worry, this team featured only two seniors and with the wealth of experience gained and outstanding leadership of the captains, the future is bright on the links.

Soccer: Coming off a year where they clearly exceeded expectations, the boys’ soccer team picked right up where it left off last season and never looked back. For the first time since the GLAC was founded someone other than Lansing Christian was the outright winner of the conference and that was Lakewood. The boys recently wrapped up the regular season winning the league as well as the league tournament while finishing the season undefeated at 17-0-1.

Tennis: Although the team lost one of the best players to ever don a Lakewood Tennis uniform to graduation, the team found much more team success this year. As Coach Karrie Carter continues to build the numbers we can expect even more success on the court.

Volleyball: The volleyball season is fast approaching the state tournament with Lakewood looking to, once again, make a deep tournament run. The team recently wrapped up another GLAC regular-season title and will look to put the stamp on the league championship before casting off into November for the state tournament.

LAKWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

We're looking for you.

COME WORK WITH US.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
Drive Our future.
Offering Hiring Incentives.

GUEST TEACHERS
Flexible schedule, accept assignments when you want. Work in your child or grandchild's school. Make a difference in the lives of Lakewood students.

CLASSROOM & HEALTH AIDES
Support a healthy school environment. Care for student health injuries/illness in a safe manner. Work alongside parents, students, and educators.

Thank You!!



LAKWOOD EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

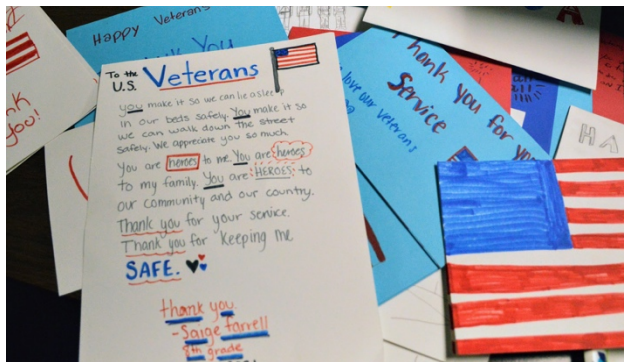
for **2021 Teacher Grants** that are Providing the Innovative Extra's

www.lakewoodeducationalfoundation.org

LAKWOOD COMMUNITY

HEROES OF THE DAY

Vikings for Veterans Celebrate 2021 Veterans Day



In 2015, Lakewood Public Schools began a strong new tradition of connecting local veterans with our students through the annual "Vikings for Veterans" event and the "Veteran of the Game" program. Out of concern for the health and safety of local veterans, staff, and students during the pandemic we were unable to hold the celebration. Jennifer Sterling's middle school students wrote personal, handwritten letters of appreciation to our local veterans. Their memorable notes and some goodies were collected and delivered to the Jackson /Mutschler VFW post 4461 in Lake Odessa. Also on display was the student designed artwork presented in 2020. The United States Flag students created by high school students is made with replicas of hands that each contain a message of thanks. Not celebrating our local veterans was not an option. Until we can meet safely again, know that Vikings are for Veterans!

We're hiring now
Regular and Substitute Positions
www.lakewoodps.org/employment

CALL TODAY. 616.374.8043

29th Annual Christmas 'Round the Town
November 26, 2021 9am-6pm
November 27, 2021 9am-3pm

Throughout the Lakewood Area

Local crafters, artisans and businesses throughout the Lakewood Area welcome you into their homes or businesses for unique, affordable gifts for everyone on your shopping list. You'll find handmade crafts, retail goods, tasty treats, art and much more!

Print a listing of all participating vendors from our website www.lakewoodareacoc.org or scan the QR code below.

LAKWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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THE VIKING VIEW

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DISTRICT CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

½ Day for Students in a.m. | November 23, 2021
No School - Thanksgiving Break | November 24-26, 2021

DECEMBER

No School - Winter Break | December 20-31, 2021

JANUARY

No School | January 17, 2022

FEBRUARY

No School | February 11-15, 2022

MARCH

No School | March 14, 2022

APRIL

No School - Spring Break | April 1-8, 2022

MAY

No School - Memorial Day Extended Weekend | May 30, 2022

JUNE

½ Day for Students in a.m. – Last Day of School | June 3, 2022

* Calendar maybe modified to accommodate for excessive snow days.

2021-2022