



LAKOTA LOCAL SCHOOLS

October 2012



Kindergarten Classes WELCOME CLASS OF 2025!!

Many students have done a great job of settling into our classroom routines. This can be a difficult transition but everyone seems to be adjusting well. Kindergarten is an important year. This year sets the foundation for the rest of their academic success. We need to work together as a team to create a positive home-school connection. We have started our Jolly Phonics and also Math. Encourage your student to talk about what they are learning in school and help them practice at home. One of the most important things you can do is read to your child and talk about what you have read. This helps build vocabulary and will help them with comprehension and concepts of print. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning!

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE.....FROM THE DESK OF MR. DAVID M. DANHOFF

We have had an outstanding beginning to the 2012-2013 school year. A big thanks goes out to our administrators, teachers, support staffs, parents and most of all to our great students for the smooth beginning. We have excellent students who are very respectful, hardworking, and in general, love school. The Lakota Local Schools are working hard to provide the best education possible as we want all students to experience success.

The new building continues to be a focus of attention for us as we make sure that your investment is being well taken care of and that you are proud of the Lakota Local Schools. We want our students to have a world class education and to be prepared for college, the work force or the military. Again, we must thank all of our taxpayers for the opportunity to educate our children in a first class facility. Your vote for success and this wonderful opportunity to teach and make a difference in a world class facility remains unparalleled. We owe it to our students to give them all that we have to ensure their opportunities for success.

You, as parents, can also help our students and your kids to reach their potential. Parent's involvement can help children succeed in school. It doesn't take a college degree to help your son or daughter find success in school. Parents have the opportunity to provide expectations for their children that can carry a child throughout their formal education.

Ways in which you can help your child do well in school include:

- Let your child know that you expect them to do their best in school. Set achievable goals each year.
- Pay attention to what your child is doing in and out of school.
- Be available for your child when they need your help and support. Often a child needs someone to listen to them after school... not necessarily someone to evaluate their day. Listen to their "replay" in an active but non-judgmental way. Your availability is what they need most.
- Share your values and reflections with your child as they do with you. Your sharing of your time means so much to your child and speaks volumes regarding your love for them.
- Routines must be established. By establishing a time for play, for dinner, for chores and for homework, you have served notice that there are expectations out of school.
- Take time to read with your child when they are young. Later on, as they gain more independence, put reading time into the daily schedule.
- Most importantly, let your children know that you love them. Fortunately kids are very resilient and as we make our mistakes as parents (we all do), the kids are able to overcome our mistakes because of that special "caring" factor that we should always find time to supply. Parents do make a difference in the success of their children.
- Success only comes with hard work. Too often our children want to play the "blame game" or talk about bad luck instead of dealing with the reality that more hard work is needed to be successful.
- Keep in contact with the school and your children's teachers.
- Be firm when facing the multitude of excuses that come with every child. Establish clear rules and the consequences for breaking those rules.
- Encourage and acknowledge your child's success at school.

HIGH SCHOOL

From The Desk Of Sherry Sprow

Lakota High School Principal

The school year is off to a great start. I would like to thank our high school staff and students for their hard work and positive attitudes as we begin the 2012-2013 school year. The high school has several new staff members this year: Mr. Steve Pleasnick, intervention specialist; Mrs. Karen Murphy, guidance counselor; Mr. Nick Petroff, math teacher; Mrs. Ashley Cramer, science teacher; and Ms. Devon Hasselbach, science teacher. These new staff members are an excellent addition to our outstanding high school staff.

The fall administration of the **Ohio Graduation test will be October 22 – October 31, 2012** for any upperclassmen who needs to pass one or more sections of the test. Ensuring that students get plenty of sleep and eat breakfast on these days is essential to their performance on the tests. Testing intervention is taking

place weekly to prepare these students as well as our 9th and 10th grade students for success on the OGTs.

Homecoming week began Sunday, October 7th with the annual Homecoming Parade that was held in Risingsun. This much anticipated week will be filled with activities for our students and will end with a **dance on Saturday, October 13th, from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. in the auditoria.**

The fall sports seasons are well underway and our athletes have been working very hard. The music programs have also been busy rehearsing and preparing for several upcoming performances. Good luck to all of our fall participants.

As we embark on another year, I appreciate the opportunity to serve our school district and community as Lakota High School's principal.



FFA FOOD-FOR-ALL GRANT PROVIDES FOR RAISED BED GARDENS

The FFA Grant which supplies more fruits and vegetables to students during the summer and school year through a variety of means, allowed the Lakota FFA to get now 6 Raised Square Foot Gardens. These were planted in June and came along well in spite of the warm temperatures and lack of rain. Students not only helped plant, but with the aid of a soaker hose system that has been added, water and care for the gardens. Pictured here are some students and a parent who helped lay the gardens out and plant them in June. (left to right are Zac Baker, Semon Riddle, Eddie Riddle, William Riddle and Katie Park.)



LAKOTA FFA SENDS 5 TO STATE FFA CAMP MUSKINGUM, CARROLLTON, OHIO

In late June the Lakota FFA was represented well by five students at the 2nd session of the State FFA Camp Muskingum. The camp is located outside of Carrollton, OH south of Canton on one of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy lakes. Leesville Reservoir is the home to the FFA Camp, where 280+ students each week are split up into camp chapters for a week of fun and team building events.

Those attending were (left to right), Makayla Kiser - Chapter Secretary, Morgan Mowry - Chapter Treasurer, Alexandra Hovis - Chapter Reporter, Katie Park - Chapter Sentinel and Keeley Brust - Chapter 1st Vice President.

BLOODMOBILE

The Lakota High School National Honor Society chapter will be hosting a blood drive on **Friday, November 16, 2012 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the main gymnasium.** Students who are 16 years of age and older may sign up. Community members are also encouraged to donate by calling the high school office at **419-986-6620** to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.



SANDUSKY COUNTY JR. FAIR QUEEN

Carlee Conrad won the title this summer as the "Sandusky County Jr. Fair Queen, 2012." She ran under her 4-H Club, "Crazy Clovers" and the Lakota FFA. She will be traveling to area fairs, festivals, and parades throughout the year, as well as running for the Ohio State Fair Queen. Contest starts in January at an Ohio County Fair's Kings and Queens week-end event. Congratulations Carlee—we know you will represent Lakota well.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

From The Desk Of Mr. Norm Elchert

Principal at Lakota Middle School

The school year is off to a good start. The staff is working very hard in giving the students the best education possible. The students have done a good job of paying attention and participating in class. I am looking forward to a great year.

Our 5th grade students took part in the 51st Annual 5th Grade Conservation Field Day. It took place at the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge/Visitors Center and Magee Marsh Wildlife Area/Bird Center along the Lake Erie Shoreline. It provided a hands-on experience and awareness for students as to the conservation and natural resources in our area and their global effect.

Our 7th and 8th grade students earned a

rewards field trip for passing the OAA's last year. On Friday, September 21st, the students went to Meadowbrook Park in Bascom for a cookout and then were treated to a movie at the theatre in Tiffin. The students enjoyed the day and were very well behaved. I am very impressed with how well our students present themselves in public and how respectful and appreciative they are.

I want to wish all of our fall athletes good luck for the remainder of their seasons. I know that all of our athletes are working hard to be the best they can be. I am always proud of our athletes and coaches on how well they represent our school. Go Raiders!



Students preparing to explore the beach of Lake Erie



5th graders learning about life in the marsh



Lakota Middle School 5th Grade students competing in the reduce, reuse, recycle relay at the conservation field trip

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

From The Desk of Mr. Josh Matz

Principal at Lakota Elementary

The 2012-2013 school year is off to a wonderful start! It is such a pleasure to see our students and staff enthusiastically working towards the common goal of learning and achievement.

Parents, I would like to thank you for your early involvement this year. Our Open House night and start of the school year have been successful because of your efforts and interest. We would also like to welcome your involvement and invite you to truly become part of our school community during the school year. Parents, grandparents, and community members are all encouraged to volunteer. Simply contact the office for more information.

A focus for the fall has been to ensure that our elementary curriculum is fully aligned with recently passed education legislation in Ohio. As a building we are on pace to fully implement the Common Core national education standards by the goal date of 2014-2015. We also have been working diligently to inform parents and students about the new requirements of the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee. In short, this new law says that if a child is not reading

on grade level by the end of 3rd grade or are not able to pass the end of the year reading test, they may be retained. These two new items re-emphasize the importance that elementary education has on building a strong academic foundation for a student to be successful and the importance of the school and the home working hand-in-hand to ensure that success.

We were again witness to the important first steps into the building of our kindergarten class, the class of 2025. It was so thrilling to imagine the possibilities that await them. Our staff could be building the necessary skills of reading and mathematics for a future president, a teacher, a farmer, an entrepreneur, an inventor, or a scientist. What an exciting and marvelous feeling!

I would like to again express my appreciation for the opportunity to serve the students of Lakota Local Schools. I welcome your calls and visits as we make this a successful year of learning and achievement.

Make it a great day!

Together we make a difference...

*I dreamed I stood in a studio and watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's mind, and they fashioned it with care.
One was a teacher who used such tools as books and music and art.
One was a parent with a guiding hand and a gentle, loving heart.
'And when at last their work was done they were proud of what they wrought,
for the things they worked into the child could never be sold or bought.
And they both agreed they would have failed if each had worked alone,
for behind the parent stood the school, and behind the teacher the home.*

Author unknown

FIRST GRADE NEWS

The First Grade classes have adjusted nicely getting back into routine. We have started homework and working on sight words. It is important to have your child practice their sight words every night to help improve their reading. Your child should be reading every night for 10 minutes or more. We also will be starting our addition facts. It would be a great idea to start practicing addition facts with your child.

We have exciting things coming up in first grade. We are going to start talking about habitats. Miss Deb from Wood County Parks visited the first grade classrooms at the end of September and taught us about local wild life habitats. We also talked about insects and maps. The first grade teachers have a lot of fun and exciting educational activities planned for this school year.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

This year is off to a great start! We are working hard and accomplishing so many things each day! We would like to welcome Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Downs, two teachers that are new to second grade this year! It is a pleasure to work with them! We have successfully completed our Dibels testing! The second grade has started using a new Vocabulary program this year. This will help the children when they are trying to figure out a difficult word while reading a story. The students will soon be starting to prepare for their Wax Museum that will be held in the spring. This is a great project for the students! We have introduced the students to Accelerated Reading and Study Island. Both of these programs are accessible at home and we encourage you to use them.

PTO NEWS - TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT

The Lakota Elementary PTO will be sponsoring a safe Trick or Treat night here at the school on **Tuesday, October 30, 2012. It will run from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Students and their siblings, 12 years old and younger, are welcome to attend. If you would like to volunteer to help pass out treats please call the elementary office at 419-986-6640 or watch for a flyer to come home in your child's folder for a sign up sheet. Hope to see everyone there!



Cayden can't hide that Raider Pride!



Elvira enjoying a good book.



Elementary staff and students cheering at our first pep rally.



Our therapy dog Buckeye is ready for the election.

THIRD GRADE NEWS

We are off to a busy start in third grade. Each student has taken multiple assessments to evaluate their reading skills for placement in reading groups. After learning about the various literary genres, the students are anxious to begin reading the different types of books. Every third grader is also working on expanding their vocabulary by reviewing parts of speech, antonyms, synonyms, and words with multiple meanings.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

A new school year is underway for 74 fourth graders! This year is very different for 4th grade students who are used to spending the day in a classroom with one teacher. Each day, students visit each of the 4th grade classrooms. They meet with Mrs. Draeger for English/Language Arts. To begin the year, students have been working on a poetry unit. In Miss Langstaff's science class, students are learning about different tools scientists use and the use of inquiry. Mrs. Marik has been brushing up on geography, reading maps, and using map skills in Ohio History. All classes are working to help students develop organization skills. Students are learning to be responsible for having needed materials, paying attention and participating during lessons, recording daily homework in agendas, and completing and turning in completed assignments. Parents are encouraged to check the homework folder and agenda nightly. Look over any papers in the "Keep at Home" pocket of the folder. This will help you monitor your child's progress in each of the subject areas and spot areas that you might be able to help with at home. On September 26th, our classes traveled to the Sandusky County Fairgrounds in Fremont to participate in the "Exploring Your Backyard" presentations. Students visited various stations to learn about conservation, recycling, and animals. We enjoyed learning in the "outdoor classroom."

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Summer Reading Group



SUMMER READING WAS A HIT!

Lakota staff enjoyed a wonderful group of summer readers ranging from preschool age to fourth grade. Over 70 children participated in our Reading A-Z program. Students read books and completed comprehension activities with guidance from adults at home. Each Tuesday, students came to school and either read to Mrs. Sayre or Mrs. Ridgely. The teachers checked student progress, and then selected the next book packet for the student's reading level. Students also took home math activities to help stay on track with grade level skills. During the last session of the program, students were given a book to keep. We hope to see all our readers back next summer!



Mrs. Kramer's class with Kristian Brown 13 ABC

KRISTIAN BROWN VISITS MRS. KRAMER'S FIRST GRADE CLASS

On the first day of school, Mrs. Kramer's First Grade Class had special visitors. Kristian Brown from Channel 13 ABC came to visit along with her cameraman Jag. Kristian Brown was doing a follow up story on Mrs. Kramer. Last October, Mrs. Kramer was diagnosed with breast cancer. During the school year, she would SKYPE her students while at chemotherapy. Channel 13 visited back in February while Mrs. Kramer SKYPED her class. This time, Kristian Brown was able to see our beautiful new school, visit with Mrs. Kramer and her class of new first graders, and enjoy some jitter juice.



Kristian Brown, 13 ABC, autographs Mrs. Kramer's door

ALL AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOWCASE



Lakota Elementary will showcase students and staff each month as an All American Citizen. We would like to recognize the following students and staff for the month of September. Stars of these citizens will be displayed on our "All American Showcase" for a month and then sent home with the student.

Congratulations to the following for this honor: James Bingaman, Ian Martinez, Elizabeth Strawman, Layne Blessing, Morgan Hamilton, Kayla Tody, Connor Billock, Owen Jarboe, Savannah Vestal, Brooklyn Foes, River Kritzar, Jordyn Stuller, Gideon Evans, Christina Lopez, Madison Reinhart, Anthony Dixon, James Kline, Olivia Shively, Landon Gebes, Karah Smith, Aaralynn Adams, Ethan Bomer, Trevor Odom, Peyton Harden, Brandon Minich, Makenzie Wyant, Cheyenne Haning, Gaven Rathburn, Elijah Wolph, Shi'Anne Cherry, Mitchel McDaid, Sebastian Wallace, Dominique Brown, Emylee Herr, Zaedyn Wedge, Audrey Bender, Ben Hovis, Kacy Smith, Elvira Black, Jayce Kohler, Kameron Tuttamore, Jayden Claburn, Ethan Longoria, Hannah Wasserman, Dillon Ellinger, Khloe Mohn, Dakota Slater, Reilly Cozette, Sam Gonyer, Maliyah Maxwell, Madison Bradner, Caleb Meel, Erica Riehl, Mrs. Downs, Mrs. Gump, and Ms. Lee. Thanks to all of our students and staff for being "All-American!"



Thank You Lakota Local Schools Bus Drivers for all you do!

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK OCTOBER 15-19th

Just a reminder to students to remember the rules and keep everyone safe on the bus!