

LAKESHORE LIGHT



Stewart Elementary students enjoy spending their earned tickets at the POP (Points of PRIDE) Store.



We are grateful for the financial support of the **LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION** and for the efforts of the LEF all-volunteer board.

Grounded in Tradition – Committed to Excellence

Message from the Superintendent



Superintendent
Greg Eding

Lakeshore Public Schools is here for YOU! Our team is working hard to make the 2024-25 school year our best yet.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to read through the Lakeshore Light.

This summer, we've been busy managing several construction projects funded by the 2023 Bond. All of our elementary schools now have newly paved parking lots and drives, a newly paved track as part of the playground, upgrades to ADA compliance, some new doors, door frames, casework, and new air conditioning in the gyms. The middle school has a new entrance drive, which should significantly improve traffic flow, and the high school has all-new parking lots. While there's more work to be done in the future, this wraps up our summer projects.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the community for your support of Lakeshore Schools.

Recently, our band attended their annual camp at Camp Friedenswald, where they worked on setting norms and expectations and preparing for this year's marching show. Coming off a stellar 2023-24 year, during which they won the State Championship, the band is excited and looking forward to this year's show!

We just finished the "dead week" for athletics, giving teams a chance to rest up for the upcoming seasons. In just a few short weeks, we'll be back in competition across all fall sports. It will be a busy and exciting time for our Lancers! We kicked off the fall season with Boys and Girls Cross Country on Friday, August 16th! For more information about our athletics program, visit lakeshorelancerathletics.com

About 40 teachers and administrators, including myself, attended the annual Professional Learning Communities conference, which was held in Grand Rapids this year. It was a great time of learning and growth for our team.

I invite you to connect with us through our website (www.lpslancers.net), or find us on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram by searching Lakeshore Public Schools.

With school now in full swing, we hope you had a chance to savor those last few summer days with friends and family.

We're ready to dive into an exciting new school year!

Sincerely,
Greg Eding
geding@lpslancer.net

A fantastic year is on the horizon! Thank you for your support and for being a key part of Lakeshore Public Schools' success!



TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS



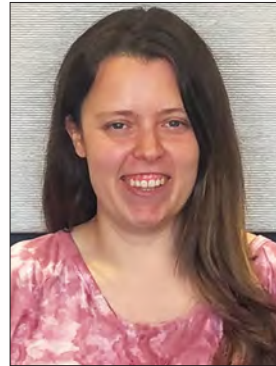
*Danny Thompson
High School Dean of
Students*



*Joshua Dunlop
High School History*



*Robbie Ebeling
Middle School Social
Studies*



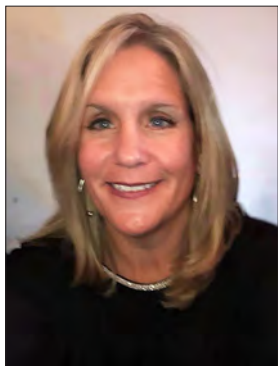
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Education*



*Julia Appel
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*Nicole Mills
Roosevelt 4th Grade*



*Cathy Bingaman
Roosevelt Counselor*



*Danae Boyden
High School Math*



*Brendan Tubbs
High Science Science*



*Noel Rezanka
Stewart Special Education*

Welcome to the Lakeshore Public Schools family!

We are excited to have you join us for the 2024-2025 school year. Your passion and dedication will help shape the future of our students and strengthen our vibrant community. Here's to a year of growth, collaboration, and making a lasting impact together!



*Hunter Ruff
Hollywood
Kindergarten*



*Jessica Siefert
Roosevelt Special Educa-
tion*



*Amanda Murbach
Stewart Music*



GROUNDING IN TRADITION COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE



Lakeshore Transportation is looking forward to another safe year of transporting our students. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call us at (269) 428-1412 or email rwhite@lpslancer.net.

Lakeshore School Bus Transportation

The Transportation Department’s mission is to provide the safest and most efficient means of transporting our students to and from school.

Bus Stop Etiquette

Bus schedules can be found on the Lakeshore Public Schools website: www.lakeshorepublicschools.net. Please have your child at the bus stop five minutes before the listed estimated time.

Late-Start Wednesdays

On *Late-Start Wednesdays*, high school/middle school buses run 35 minutes later, and elementary buses run 30 minutes later. Late Start Wednesdays begin September 4, 2024.

Student Crossing Procedure

To Board the Bus:

1. Students wait in a group at the designated bus stop at least 10 feet away from the edge of the roadway and watch the bus driver for the signal to cross.
2. Bus drivers will display a sign (see image at right) to indicate when it is safe to cross the street.
3. Students proceed directly across the road always staying well in front of the bus and board the bus.
4. Do not stop in the middle of the street or cross behind the bus.
5. Bus stops will be placed at legal locations consistent with Board policy or if required by law.

When Exiting the Bus:

1. Students exit the bus and take 10 giant steps in front of the bus staying on the side of the street.
2. Students stand in a group and look to the bus driver for the signal to cross.
3. Bus drivers will display a sign to indicate when it is safe to cross the street.
Red stop sign means “STOP.”
Green smiley face means “CROSS SAFELY.”
4. Students proceed to a point even with the left side of the bus and stop.
5. Students look left and right for passing cars.
6. Students look to the driver for instruction to complete the crossing.
7. Do not cross behind the bus.
8. If a paper or article goes under the school bus, always ask the bus driver for help.
9. Do not get mail from roadside mailboxes until after the bus leaves the stop.



Red stop sign means “STOP”
Green smiley face means “CROSS SAFELY”



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My MealTime

Lakeshore Schools has partnered with *My MealTime*, a fast, secure online service for making credit or debit card deposits and monitoring your student's lunch account.

mymealtime.com

Download the mobile app

Use your device's web browser and go to mymealtime.com. If you're on a mobile device, from the My MealTime sign-in screen, choose the appropriate button to download the My MealTime app.

Easy steps to use My MealTime

Step 1: Register. Click or tap the Register button and follow the onscreen prompts to create your *My MealTime* account.

Step 2: Link Your Student. Click or tap the 'Add Student' button, then find your student's school. Link them to your profile by using their student ID number that was provided by your student's school.

Step 3: Make a Deposit. You may choose to store your credit/ debit card for quick and easy repeat use.

Nutritious and Fun!

Breakfast and lunch are important parts of your child's day, and we strive to make them nutritious and fun. We have added a "build your own" salad option to our elementary menu every day, as well as fresh fruit choices in all buildings. Lakeshore Schools follow USDA guidelines in menu planning. If you have any questions, please call (269) 428-1400, ext. 2965.

Lakeshore Food Service

The breakfast and lunch menus are posted on Lakeshore School's website: <https://www.lpslancers.net>. To view them, click on "Menu" then "Departments," then "Food Service," where the menus can be accessed.

Breakfast begins at 8:25 a.m. in the elementary school, 7:25 a.m. in the middle school, and 7:20 a.m. in the high school. If a student brings a lunch from home and wants milk or juice, they will need money in their account to purchase a drink (\$0.75). Water is available in every cafeteria.

Every child is eligible to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch per school day for this school year. To purchase à la carte items at the middle school and high school, students must have money in their account. If you believe your family may qualify for free meals based on income, please still fill out an application. There are additional benefits for families that qualify, and approved applications also help with school funding. If you received a letter in August stating you qualify for free meals, you do not need to fill out an application. Students can bring the application on the first day of school and turn it into the office. Applications can be downloaded from the website or are available in every building.

Applications can be mailed to:

Lakeshore Public Schools

Attn: Pam Greiffendorf

5771 Cleveland Ave., Stevensville, MI 49127

We offer online payments at www.mymealtime.com. There is a fee for this service only if you make a deposit. We strongly recommend having an account so you can view your child's account activity. High school and middle school students need to know their student ID number to enter on keypads and purchase their meals.

Please pre-pay for your child's purchases as needed. You can pay by cash or check (made payable to Lakeshore Public Schools). All deposits need to be made before 10:00 a.m. Elementary students should turn in deposits to their teacher (for juice or milk purchases). Middle school students should use the deposit box located by the office. High school students can use deposit boxes located in the principal's office or the cafeteria. Please place deposits in the designated drop-off locations, as deposits will not be accepted during the lunch period.



ELEMENTARY NEWS



Building Readers, Building Futures

Following the success of a pilot literacy program at Stewart Elementary School, Lakeshore Public Schools is expanding the initiative this fall to all three district elementary schools. The program, known as Lakeshore Intervention Time (LIT), provides 30 minutes of focused literacy instruction for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. By grouping students

Students enjoy the LIT program.

based on their individual needs and implementing carefully designed instructional routines, LIT aims to maximize both learning and engagement.

The program has demonstrated significant improvements in reading fluency and comprehension, making a positive impact on student achievement. Due to these strong results, LIT will now extend to Hollywood Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary Schools, bringing its benefits to a wider range of students across the district. This expansion reflects the district's commitment to building strong foundational reading skills and fostering a love of learning in all elementary students.



First Recipient of Bridgman Market Back to School Drive

Lakeshore Public Schools is thrilled to recognize Cindy Kliemchen, the first recipient of the Bridgman Open-Air Market Back to School Drive. Cindy, who has dedicated 28 years to teaching—22 of those in 4th

Cindy Kliemchen, the first recipient of the Bridgman Open-Air Market Image credit: www.facebook.com/BridgmanOpenAirMarket

grade—brings passion and care to Roosevelt Elementary every day. She inspires her students with the class motto, "Keep Moving Forward," from Meet the Robinsons. Cindy's goal is to help her "littles" embrace who they are, learn from their mistakes, and grow stronger with each new day.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Bridgman Open-Air Market and the generous community of Berrien County for making a difference in Cindy's classroom.



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269.429.5711 (office)

Welcome back to school, Lakeshore Elementary students!

We're thrilled to start another exciting year filled with learning, growth, and fun. Our teachers and staff are ready to support you as you embark on new adventures and reach new goals. Get ready for a fantastic year of exploration and discovery—let's make it the best one yet!

LAKESHORE MIDDLE SCHOOL



Empowering Educators:

Advancing Collaborative Common Assessments Through PLC Training

Four teachers from LMS—Danielle Fulbright, Michelle Nichols, Nicole Tiefenbach, and Laura Veldman—and three teachers from LHS—Clint Jepkema, Chris Cochran, and Jill Rezanka—attended the Solution Tree Workshop on Collaborative Common Assessments in San Diego, CA. The purpose of this training was to equip teachers with tools and strategies to design and implement assessments that enable teams to collect meaningful instructional data and respond appropriately with interventions and enrichments.

Four critical questions are crucial to the PLC (Professional Learning Communities) process:

1. What do we want all students to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know if they learn it?
3. How will we respond when some students do not learn?
4. How will we extend the learning for students who are already proficient?

This is ongoing work, and this workshop highlighted that this truly is a process; we are continually working through these four questions.

The training provided clarity on the next steps that secondary staff need to take as we complete this work. It laid out concrete ideas on best practices for assessments and how to glean meaningful and actionable information from them. We need to continue working together as teams to construct common assessments that align with learning targets, track how students perform on the assessments, and respond to those assessments with students to promote, celebrate, and extend learning.

In addition to providing clarity on the next steps, the workshop also tied together the four questions of the PLC process. Teachers must thoroughly know their standards to assess them at the level of rigor or they require. Then, they must determine how best to assess them. Quality assessments allow us to gauge how well students understand the concepts at the correct level of rigor. Normalizing grading and data allows teachers to see trends. These trends help teachers identify strengths and weaknesses in their teaching methods, enabling them to lean on each other's strengths to grow as a team. Once all students are measured on the same

scale and rigor, teachers can begin interventions with the best teaching methods at the forefront.

Another aspect of creating collaborative common assessments is that teams work together on error analysis when examining data. With our traditional grading system, students with the same percentage can have varying levels of proficiency, so it is important to dig deep into the data to provide meaningful intervention based on individual student needs.

There is still much we can learn as a secondary staff on this topic, but we are excited to be better equipped with the tools to begin this work. Thank you to the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation for making it possible for us to attend this Solution Tree training on Collaborative Common Assessments.



Empowered and inspired! Our LMS and LHS educators are ready to elevate learning after an insightful workshop on Collaborative Common Assessments in San Diego.

REACH HIGHER

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

DR. JOE JEWELL

LAKESHORE'S
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ALUMNI



READ MORE PAGE 6.

\$28,100

LEF GOLF SCRAMBLE

ORCHARD HILLS
COUNTRY CLUB



Your support
WAS AMAZING!

READ MORE PAGE 2.

ANOTHER GREAT SCHOOL YEAR AWAITS! LEFonline.org

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THANK YOU LEF GOLF SCRAMBLE DONORS AND SPONSORS



Thank you to the following businesses, teams, and individuals who donated and sponsored our event this year. We couldn't do it without you and truly appreciate your support!

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Watermark Brewing Co.



Excellent schools are the foundation of excellent communities. When you invest in Lakeshore Public Schools through the LEF, you are investing in the quality of life in our community both today and tomorrow.

LEF ALL VOLUNTEER BOARD

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO



J.C. Anderson, Chairman

With each publication of the Lakeshore Light, I challenge myself to develop an interesting and informative letter to keep you abreast of the actions of the LEF. In the past, I have covered topics such as our budget process, our three fundraisers, the importance of DEI, our major projects, our student/teacher grant process, and other relevant subjects. In this letter, I would like to recognize our LEF Board of Trustees and the effort they have extended to help make the LEF successful over the past several years.

*Leslie Arbanas
Ryan Arnt
Meghan Bacin
Sophie Bauchet
Ludo Beauflis
Kate Beckrow*

*Kelly Bushu
Zeb Deitrich
Chad Deja
Tim Dyer
Greg Eding*

*Andrew Glisson
Janine Harrison
Lori Hellenga
Rebecca Hirschboeck
Alaina Kinney*

*Lori Marciniak
Sterling Massey
Elizabeth Meeth
Phil Molloy
Julia Pechtel*

*Jennifer Powers
Jim Roberts
Bill Scaletta
Lewis Scott
Matt Swab*

To fully understand and appreciate what this group accomplishes, we must go back approximately 10 years and reflect upon the situation. At that time, with our bylaws allowing 21 Board members, we had only 13 on the Board, and only about 8 of the members were “active” and fully engaged in the fundraising focus of the LEF. Since then, we have made a concerted effort to recruit Board members who truly understand our fundraising mission, bring critical skills to the Board that we were missing (e.g., marketing), and understand and are willing to commit the time. In fact, at that time, we considered the items below to be part of our strategic objectives that, if accomplished, would form the basis for a successful LEF organization.

- Recruit a diverse group of Board members who are interested in and passionate about Lakeshore students and their education.
- Recruit diverse Board members who understand the fundraising focus and the time commitment required each month.

- Recruit diverse Board members who bring critical skills needed for the LEF organization.
- Eventually, due to LEF’s successes, the LEF is approached by individuals wanting to assist.

As we look back on these strategic items, I feel especially pleased with the LEF Board of Trustees that we have assembled! I feel that each member brings a passion for students and their education and certainly understands our critical role as the fundraising arm for Lakeshore Public Schools. We can always use more expertise, but we have come a long way in our marketing, finance, fundraising, and project management skills. It appears that the word is getting out regarding some of the positive things that the LEF is doing for the students and their education, as we have had several recent Board members actually request to join.

All of us work as volunteers; we are not paid one penny for the LEF work that we do, so the overall expense base of the

LEF is relatively low compared to the funds that we are able to raise. So, why have I chosen to use this Chairman’s Letter to go on and on about the LEF Board of Trustees? As I mentioned, we can always use more “feet on the floor” volunteers in our fundraising efforts. Fundraising is all about the individual networks that we each have established with our family, friends, neighbors, and work colleagues.

Please consider this an invitation to explore potential opportunities on the LEF Board. Give me a call at 269-921-2513 or email me at anderjcna@gmail.com to discuss further. I look forward to our conversation.

Sincerely,

J.C. Anderson
Chair, LEF



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Action:

LAKESHORE STUDENTS MEET INDUSTRY LEADERS IN DETROIT

Lakeshore High School English teacher and LEF Trustee, Alaina Kinney, and Dean of Students, Danny Thompson took students from the Diversity and Prism Clubs to Detroit. The trip was made possible by Jim Roberts and the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation as part of the organization's efforts to support Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Lakeshore Public Schools.

In the morning, the students were privileged to meet with Marcus Lewis, owner of Full View Productions, and Abriana Walton, a producer at the same company. They were joined by Travis Spencer, head of Supplier Diversity and Inclusion at Ford Motor Company. In the afternoon, the students were able to speak with Charity Dean, president/CEO of the Michigan Black Business Alliance, and Kaiwan Bowman, Chief Operating Officer of the MBAA.

At both places, the students were immersed in rich conversations with the business experts as they described their jobs and the importance that minority-owned businesses have on the local and global economy. A main focus of the



DEI and PRISM Students visit Detroit.

Lakeshore students experience an eye-opening trip to Detroit, meeting industry leaders and exploring careers in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). From inspiring talks with Marcus Lewis and Charity Dean to hands-on learning at Full View Productions, the journey highlights the impact of minority-owned businesses and the importance of inclusivity in today's world.

Continued NEXT PAGE



Continued DEI to Detroit

conversations was showcasing the resilience and innovation of minority entrepreneurs in Detroit as well as throughout Michigan and the country, along with the vital role that inclusivity plays in the entire business world. Some students already had an interest in pursuing careers in the DEI space and this trip allowed them to speak to people currently doing the work they want to do in the future. Graduated senior, Mia Norbey said, "It was inspiring hearing about the tangible, positive difference investing in and supporting minority-owned businesses can make on communities."

While students were at Full View Productions, they were taken on a tour through the workshop area where they saw everything that went into creating a professional production: cameras, props, and even cutting-edge computer technology. This enabled students to see the role their passions and interests can play in their future.

"I've had a lot of trouble allowing myself to be an artist, not really knowing if it would be a reliable career. But listening to Abrianna Walton talk about how she's done it really helped me think about it in a different, more beneficial light," said Piper Josimovich, senior and co-president of Prism.

Kinney said, "Any time we can show our students potential career paths that allow them to pursue their interests and make a positive difference in the world is exciting. This trip allowed them to see how a diversity of backgrounds and ideas is so important to success in today's world and will hopefully inspire them to continue their journey for advocacy, inclusion, and creativity."

Grants in Action - LEF Purchases Writing Tablets for Hollywood 2nd Graders

We received a kind note of thanks from Pam McLean, 2nd Grade Teacher at Hollywood Elementary, after we fulfilled a grant request to purchase 90 new LCD writing tablets.

"These tablets have been used during our phonics, writing, and math instruction this year. The students have enjoyed the ability to get their thoughts written down quickly, share their ideas, and erase and go on to the next problem. The teachers have appreciated how mess-free these writing tablets are! We will be able to use these writing tablets for years to come. Thank you again for your generosity."
Pam McLean, 2nd Grade Teacher
Hollywood Elementary



2nd graders enjoy using their new writing tablets.

LEF Kindergarten Books Initiative

Lakeshore Kindergarten and Young Fives students were greeted with excitement prior to the first days of school, thanks to a special reading goody bag provided by the LEF. This thoughtful gesture added a touch of joy to their initial school experience, helping to spark a love for learning right from the start. We are thrilled to support and celebrate these young learners as they embark on their educational journey!





Lakeshore’s 2024 Distinguished Alumni

JOE JEWELL, PH.D.

National Leader In Aeronautics and Astronautics Hypersonic Research

Joe Jewell, Ph.D.’s, family roots run deep in southwest Michigan – much like his resume runs long with prestigious national scientific appointments and educational accolades. The 2000 graduate of Lakeshore High School, and John Bogdanoff Associate Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Purdue University, has served on NATO science and engineering panels and has authored more than 70 technical papers on everything from rocket propulsion and hypersonic aerodynamics to even a bestselling SAT study book. Dr. Jewell is currently the Director of the Boeing-AFOSR Mach 6 quiet wind tunnel and HYPULSE reflected shock/expansion tunnel, where he replicates MACH 40 conditions and studies the aerodynamics of spacecraft re-entering our atmosphere. But out of all the awards and recognition, Dr. Jewell says being named Lakeshore’s Distinguished Alumni is one of the most significant.

“It’s special because it comes from where I’m from, and because so many members of my family are Lakeshore alumni,” says Dr. Jewell. “It’s not an accident that I could work pretty much anywhere, but I choose to teach at a university that is two hours from Stevensville and that’s a big part of it for me. I really value coming from a small town. I think that is a core part of who I am. Both of my parents went to Lakeshore.”



*Jewell, seen here with the burst metal disc that initiates the shock tunnel test. *Picture credit - Purdue: Charles Jischke*

Dr. Joe Jewell, a 2000 Lakeshore High School graduate and Purdue University professor, has made notable contributions to aeronautics with over 70 technical papers and leading research at the Boeing-AFOSR Mach 6 wind tunnel. Honored as Lakeshore’s Distinguished Alumni, he values his small-town roots and impactful experiences in the Lakeshore Band program.

Dr. Jewell’s father is the late Stephen Jewell, former long-time News Editor for the Herald Palladium. His mother, Suzanne Jewell (née Kramer) is the daughter of Dorothy Kramer, who graduated from what was then Stevensville High School. All four of Dr. Jewell’s grandparents also graduated from area high schools. In fact, Dr. Jewell says they can trace his Berrien County family ties back to a Cavalry Regiment in the Civil War. In all his work at the University of Oxford and the California Institute of Technology, Dr. Jewell never lost sight of the important lessons he learned from growing up in a small town. He shared these insights with graduating seniors during his speech at the commencement ceremony.



Joe Jewell with his parents, Stephen and Suzanne Jewell, and sister, Elizabeth



“We only get one life to live and I’m happy mine has gone the way it has,” says Dr. Jewell.

“I’d rather have that small-town background and the sense of continuity. The benefits of that stay with you forever. We have a close-knit community and I think that matters a lot. I think people can come from Lakeshore and do anything. The things that the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation does, and programs like the Math and Science Center have done for even longer, work to make up some of the gaps that might exist between someone from southwest Michigan and someone else from a big city.”

While he’s thankful to have benefitted from being part of Lakeshore’s Math and Science Center, which prepared him for his college experience, Dr. Jewell says it was music and the Band program that ultimately determined the trajectory of his life.

“I was involved in band all the way through school and Mrs. VK [VonKoenig] had a profound impact on me,” says Dr. Jewell. “When I look back at my school years, I think more of the home that music gave me, not just at Lakeshore with the Marching Band, but at other places. It’s always been important for me to have something besides academics, science, and engineering. I don’t think you can be a whole person without some appreciation for and involvement in the Arts.”

Dr. Jewell was nominated for Lakeshore’s Distinguished Alumni award by former Lakeshore Band Teacher and Band Director, Lori VonKoenig, and former classmate and current Band Teacher, Band Director, and friend, Matt Pagel. Dr. Jewell chose VonKoenig to accompany him to the White House to meet President Bill Clinton in 2000, after winning the Presidential Scholar Award, where he represented Michigan as the top male high school graduate.

“Joe is one of the most distinguished alumni Lakeshore has ever had,” says VonKoenig.

“Joe was an outstanding percussionist and leader in our band program. His amazing accomplishments are the result of his incredible work ethic, outstanding character, and wonderful family.”



Jewell as part of his Lakeshore Band days



Joe Jewell (second from left) and Matt Pagel (far right) during Lakeshore High School Band days

Help us honor exceptional graduates by nominating candidates for the Distinguished Alumni Award. Submit nominations at lefonline.org by December 15 each year; they remain under review for three years and can be resubmitted. The nomination period closes annually in December and reopens in September. We keep the recipient’s identity a secret until commencement, where they will be celebrated with a reception and will address the graduating class. Thank you for helping us recognize our outstanding alumni!

LEF Helps Advance the MACHINE TOOL PROGRAM AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Machinists help create our world. Without them, the bolts, pistons, or other elements that make our machinery run wouldn't be possible. At Lakeshore, our CTE machine tool students are developing the skills highly sought after by local machine shops and now, they have one more reason to be hired – learning with the latest technology, operating brand-new CNC machines.

Machinists use a wide variety of tools, from a lathe tool to machinist blocks and CNC machines – computer numerically controlled machines. These machines follow a computer program that tells them when to change out tools, controls the speed, and performs all the necessary steps to create the part. The machinist is the person who sets up the machine and tools; they also program and machine the parts on the CNC machine. CNC machines have made a huge difference in what machinists can accomplish with modern equipment and cutting-edge technology. As a part of the \$1 million commitment from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, new CNC machines have been purchased for \$80,000, providing more learning opportunities for the students in this program.



Since reinstating the machine tool classes in 2016, Brad Smith, machining and CAD teacher, has seen an increase of interest from students wanting to explore careers in manufacturing. “CNC Programming and Machining are skills sought after by local Machine shops. Our goal is to build the skills of the students to make them more employable,” said Brad Smith. “The CNC machines that were purchased are not replacing any other machines. They are here to give the students new opportunities to learn how to program and operate CNC machines.”

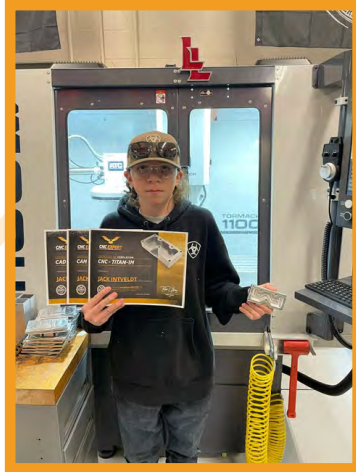
With the use of the new CNC machines and a curriculum called *Titans of CNC*, students can earn certifications in Part Design, Part Programming (CAM), and Part Creation (CNC). Through this curriculum, students learn the computer interface so they can navigate the menus on the CNC, along with basic machining skills that can be transferred between manual machines and the CNC, such as squaring a vise, edge finding, print reading, measuring, and cutting tool knowledge. Students can design and manufacture their own parts for personal use or make one from a print. As these parts are completed, students are encouraged to enter their projects into the annual Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society (MITES) metal-working contest, where they have an opportunity to earn awards and scholarships.

Continued **NEXT PAGE** ▶▶▶



We are proud to equip our CTE machine tool students with the skills and technology to shape the future. With state-of-the-art CNC machines, students gain hands-on experience in modern manufacturing, setting them on a path to exciting careers. Supported by the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, these young machinists are not just learning to create parts—they're building their futures.

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation has purchased new CNC machines for \$80,000, providing enhanced learning opportunities for students.



Like most of the Lakeshore CTE programs currently available, the machine tool program is made up of 85% Lakeshore students, the rest being other Berrien County students.

“We have seen an increase in students’ interest in this program, and we are hopeful that the new CNCs and new curriculum will attract more students next year,” said Brad Smith.

The career opportunities are great for students with knowledge of CNC programming and operation. Over the next 10 years, the U.S. is expected to need about 44,100 machinists and tool and die makers per year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wages for machinists continue to rise as well. Students can earn about \$50,000 directly out of high school with the skills learned in Lakeshore’s machine tool CTE program, and we have many machine shops and manufacturing plants in our region. According to American Machinist publication, nearly 70% of the current machinist workforce is over the age of 45, which means there is a great need for younger workers over the next 20 years.

Students with an interest in engineering and robotics should also take advantage of the machine tool class. Not only does the

program provide students with transferable skills, but it also offers exposure to companies that provide engineering internships and engineering apprenticeships.

Contact Brad Smith or your student’s guidance counselor to learn more.

Lakeshore’s CTE machine tool students are mastering the latest technology with new CNC machines, thanks to an \$80,000 investment from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation. These advanced tools, essential in modern manufacturing, offer students hands-on experience in CNC programming and machining, making them highly employable. With a curriculum that includes certifications in Part Design, Part Programming, and Part Creation, students are well-prepared for future careers in manufacturing and engineering.

The Lakeshore Public Schools community is a wonderful area to live, work, raise your children, and an EXCELLENT place for education. Thank you for your generosity.

Celebrating Student Creativity:

ART AROUND TOWN HONORS YOUNG ARTISTS



Twenty students from Lakeshore Public Schools were honored as part of the LEF-sponsored Art Around Town event showcasing their artistic talents. All three elementary schools, Lakeshore Middle School, and Lakeshore High School were represented. The students' artwork was on display in the Curious Kids' Museum for one special evening, where parents, family, friends, and the artists themselves could be recognized for their outstanding achievements.

Our thanks to the three celebrity judges for this year's event: LEF Board Member and Curious Kids' Director Lori Marciniak; Julie Nitz from JLN Studio; and multidimensional artist Chris Stanckowicz. The judges chose this year's highlighted winners from countless entries picked by each school for the competition. Every Art Around Town piece is sponsored and displayed at an area business for the remainder of the year.

We also thank the businesses supporting our event. A very special thank you goes to our event organizers, Art Around Town Co-Chairs Jill Phenegar and Lauren Roberto, who spend countless hours bringing everything together to support our students and the fine arts!





Art Around Town Winners and Business/School Sponsors

Lucas Lange	Stewart Elementary	Austin Tax & Financial
Ether Jackson	Stewart Elementary	Bit of Swiss
Camryn Winsman	Roosevelt Elementary	Boss Services
Drake Florian	Hollywood Elementary	Brown and Luczak Family Dentistry
Juliette Dommer	Hollywood Elementary	Brown and Luczak Family Dentistry
Ovee Makode	Roosevelt Elementary	Brown and Luczak Family Dentistry
Mia Carmichael	Lakeshore High School	Brown and Luczak Family Dentistry
Charolette Stotmeister	Lakeshore Middle School	Brown and Luczak Family Dentistry
Wylie Walker	Stewart Elementary	Carole Fetke
Elena Rodriguez-Alveto	Lakeshore Middle School	Friends of the Lincoln Township Library
Henley Kujawski	Roosevelt Elementary	Full Circle Cafe
Jaxon Scieszka	Roosevelt Elementary	Honor Credit Union
Nicole Nedoba	Lakeshore Middle School	Mead and White
Samantha Little	Lakeshore High School	Priebe's Creative Woodworking
Olivia Holmes	Hollywood Elementary	Red Coach Donuts
Alaina Bradley	Lakeshore High School	Scott Berry Promotions
Addison Ogle	Lakeshore High School	Spectrum Health Neurology
Diane Dahn	Lakeshore Middle School	Sturgis Bank and Trust
Morgan McGovern	Lakeshore High School	Superintendent Greg Eding's Office
Kinsey Alphenaar	Stewart Elementary	Superintendent Greg Eding's Office

Congratulations

TEAM LANCE-A-BOT



Congratulations to Team Lance-a-Bot on making it to the World's Championship in Houston!

Congratulations to Team Lance-a-Bot #4237 on their incredible achievement of making it to the World's Championship in Houston from April 17 to April 20, 2024! Competing at such a prestigious level is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and teamwork exhibited by all the members of the team. During the competition, Team Lance-a-Bot ranked 23rd in the DALY Division. This impressive performance reflects their resilience and determination in the face of challenging competition. We are immensely proud of their accomplishments and excited to see what the future holds for these talented students. Well done, Team Lance-a-Bot!

AP Biology Students

EXPLORE BIOTECHNOLOGY



Lakeshore High School AP Biology classes took part in biotechnology labs thanks to a generous donation from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation. Students carried out a bacterial transformation lab by inserting a jellyfish gene into *E. coli* to make it glow. Then, students were able to perform polymerase chain reaction and gel electrophoresis in order to sequence a gene that contributes to their circadian rhythm and influences if they are a morning or night person.

LHS Chorale and Bella Voce Shine at State Festival in New LEF-Funded Uniforms



Lakeshore High School's Chorale and Bella Voce Girls' Honors Choir competed in the Michigan School Vocal Music Association (MSVMA) State High School Solo & Ensemble Festival, donning new competition outfits provided by the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

The two choirs advanced to the state competition at Allendale High School after qualifying at the High School District Festival. Both groups delivered outstanding performances, earning the highest rating possible. They showcased their talent by performing two songs each, followed by a music sight-reading segment.

"The new choir uniforms made possible by the LEF are a breath of fresh air," said LHS Choir Director David Gailey. "They are elegant, comfortable, and machine washable. We are very thankful to the LEF for their generosity, and we look forward to using the new uniforms often and for many years to come."

Congratulations to the LHS Choirs for their exceptional achievement!



REACH HIGHER
Lakeshore Excellence Foundation





Sister School Exchange Program – **A GLOBAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

In 2018, Lakeshore High School started the Sister School Exchange Program to help students learn about the different cultures in an increasingly interconnected world. As the 2023 – 2024 school year allowed for the third group to go through this program, Lakeshore High School students travelled to Germany in March for an almost three-week experience.

When the German students who visited in September had an action-packed two weeks, the Lakeshore students had the opportunity to extend their trip. They spent five days exploring some of Germany's most historical locations and cultural experiences before traveling to Mönchengladbach to live with their host families for the remainder of the trip.

The exchange program is a great opportunity for both German and American students. It is a chance for the students to learn about each other's cultures and to make lifelong friendships.

These events were coordinated by Amy Perkins and Danielle Plichta, the Co-Directors of the Sister School Exchange Program, along with some input from the students. “At the beginning of the program, we provide the students three trip options to experience before we arrive in Mönchengladbach. They, as a group, get to decide and this year, they chose to spend their extra time exploring Munich, Germany with a day trip to Salzburg, Austria,” said Ms. Perkins. Their experiences included a guided bike tour and culinary tour around Munich, a private tour of the Residenz Palace, the Deutsches Museum, BMW World Museum and a tour of the ever-infamous Nazi concentration camp and museum, Dachau.

“Spending time in Germany as a high school student can be transformative. Beyond the language skills, cultural immersion fosters a global perspective. Students gain an appreciation for different customs and traditions, realizing both the unique aspects of German life and the surprising similarities that connect people across borders. This broadened view can leave a lasting impact, shaping them into more open-minded and adaptable young adults,” said Ms. Perkins.

When the students arrive in Mönchengladbach, they reconnect with their German exchange student and spend the remaining weeks with them and their families. The students attend classes at Gesamtschule Hardt (School), which is very different from Lakeshore High School, being more modern with an open campus and flexible school schedule throughout the week. On the weekends, the students explore the area around Mönchengladbach eating local foods. Participant Wil Bacin's host family was Turkish and celebrated Ramadan while he was with them. While Wil did not fast with the family, learning about their customs and the meaning behind Ramadan gave him a greater appreciation to his German exchange student, Mesut and his family.

Continued NEXT PAGE





REACH HIGHER

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation



“This trip was life-changing for multiple reasons,” says Paige Benedict, a junior who participated in this year’s program. “Getting to experience living and going to school in a different country that I have never before gone to or known much about really pushed me out of my comfort zone. Getting to travel to other places in Germany and other countries nearby was something I will forever be grateful for!”

Lakeshore students must apply to be selected for the Sister School Exchange Program, as they need to show how they would be a good ambassador for the district and the program. The program fees and expenses average roughly \$1800 - \$2200 per student, but the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation offers financial scholarships to help cover the cost. This year, over half of the participants received funds from the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

“Most of these students have not been given the opportunity to experience travel on a level like this,” shared Ms. Perkins. “Being able to provide this experience to the students gives them the opportunity to change their perspective on what they think of the world outside the U.S. and people from different backgrounds and cultures.”

There will be another group chosen for the 2025 – 2026 school year. Applications will be due March 2025. Lakeshore students and families will host in October 2025 and travel to Germany in March 2026. For more information, please reach out to Amy Perkins or Danielle Plichta.

ART AROUND TOWN

REACH HIGHER
Lakeshore Excellence Foundation



Twenty talented students from Lakeshore Public Schools were celebrated at the LEF-sponsored Art Around Town event, showcasing their artwork at the Curious Kids' Museum. The students' creations were displayed for one special evening, where they were recognized for their achievements. See more on pages 10-11.



Learn more about LEF.
Visit our website: LEFonline.org
Follow us on Facebook @LakeshoreExcellence
Read our newsletter in the Lakeshore Light
Contact our Chairman, J.C. Anderson (anderjcna@gmail.com)



LAKESHORE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Celebrating Young Poets: Slam Winners Announced

This spring, eighth-grade students at Lakeshore Public Schools took part in an exciting and creative event—the annual Poetry Slam. This highly anticipated event gave students the opportunity to showcase their writing talents and share their unique voices with classmates and teachers.



Poetry Slam Winners

Each student was tasked with writing an original poem, which they then performed in front of their peers, bringing their words to life through expressive recitation. After all the poems were recited, the students themselves had the chance to vote for their favorite pieces within each class period. This peer voting system added an extra layer of excitement, as students eagerly awaited the results. Once the top three poems from each hour were selected, middle school staff members reviewed these finalists and chose the overall winners.

This year's top poets stood out for their creativity, emotional depth, and ability to engage the audience. Kolton R. took first place with his whimsical and entertaining poem, "The Fat Cat," which had the audience smiling and laughing along with his clever verses. Kya B. earned second place with "Thousands of Words," a poignant piece that resonated with many for its thought-provoking message and eloquent expression. Will K. captured third place with "The Mountain King," a vivid and imaginative poem that transported listeners to a world of adventure and mystery.

The school extends its deepest gratitude to Forever Books in St. Joseph for generously providing prizes to the winning poets. Their support added an extra layer of excitement and encouragement for the students.

The students' enthusiasm, creativity, and courage to share their work with others made this year's Poetry Slam a resounding success. Congratulations to all the poets who participated, and especially to Kolton, Kya, and Will for their outstanding achievements.

Middle School Band Students End the Year on a High Note

As the school year came to a close, middle school band students took to the stage for a final performance that left the audience in awe. The concert showcased their impressive musical talents, featuring a diverse repertoire that ranged from spirited marches to thrilling tracks from Jurassic Park. The students' dedication and progress throughout the year were evident in every note they played.

The performance was a celebration of hard work, as months of practice culminated in a night filled with music and applause. The audience, made up of proud parents, teachers, and fellow students, couldn't help but cheer as the young musicians brought each piece to life with energy and precision.

Adding a playful twist to the evening, Mr. Grapis, the band director, took the stage dressed in a dinosaur costume while conducting the Jurassic Park theme. His enthusiasm and sense of humor not only delighted the crowd but also underscored the supportive and fun atmosphere that has fostered these students' growth.

The concert was a fitting conclusion to a year of musical achievements, leaving everyone in attendance with smiles on their faces and memories to cherish. As the final

notes echoed through the auditorium, it was clear that this group of talented students had made their mark, setting the stage for even greater performances in the years to come.



A Great Performance



LAKESHORE HIGH SCHOOL

Challenging Minds: The Math & Science Center for Gifted High School Students

October 2, 2024

Student Fall Count Day (striving for 100% attendance)

October 25, 2024

Half Day All Students - End of 1st Quarter

November 3, 2024

Daylight Saving Time Ends- Fall back

November 7, 2024

Half Day All Students

November 12, 2024

Elem/MS/HS Evening Parent Teacher Conferences

November 14, 2024

Half Day All Students - Elem/MS/HS P/T Conferences

November 15, 2024

No School

November 27 - 29, 2024

No School - Thanksgiving Break

December 20, 2024

Half Day All Students

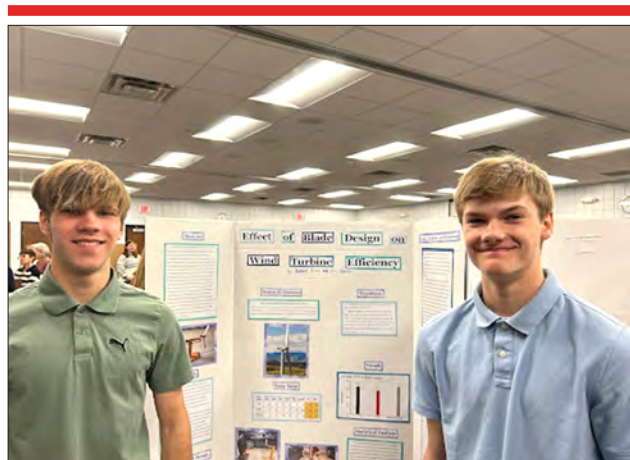
December 23, 2024 - January 3, 2025

Winter Break, No School
School resumes January 6, 2025.

The Math & Science Center (MSC) is a high school program geared toward gifted and talented students who enjoy learning and challenging themselves academically.

The MSC freshmen participate in the Berrien County Science Fair every spring. Students who had top finishes in this year's science fair were:

- Greta Howe** - 1st place in Animal Science
- Alicen Martin & Niyati Paghda** - 1st place in Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Gio Flores Ortiz** - 2nd place in Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Abbie Luckman & Caitlin Stachurski** - 1st place in Chemistry
- Robbie Jeffery & Akshar Shetty** - 1st place in Computer Science
- Cole Dalton & Robbie Frank** - 1st place in Engineering Technology
- Lucy Cross & Bella Sladen-York** - 1st place in Materials Science
- Jacob Velasco & Brady Woodard** - 1st place in Medicine and Health
- Addi Miller** - 1st place in Microbiology
- Nathan Malich & Cullen Wilkins** - 1st place in Physics
- Ashley Ramirez** - 2nd place in Physics
- Rafa Lara Martinez** - 1st place in Plant Sciences
- Kaitie Arney & Ella Baker** - 2nd place in Plant Sciences



Cole and Robbie emerged as the top winners of the science fair.

Congratulations to Cole Dalton and Robbie Frank for being the overall winners of the science fair with their project, "The Effect of Blade Design on Wind Turbine Efficiency."

Several students also took their science fair projects to the next level and presented at the Michigan High School Research Symposium. Students who participated in the

symposium included *Emma Allan, Kaitie Arney, Ella Baker, Gio Flores Ortiz, Lotta Gottstein, Chloe House, Greta Howe, Nathan Malich, Alicen Martin, Addi Miller, Niyati Paghda, and Ashley Ramirez (pictured on next page).* *Continued NEXT PAGE*



GROUNDING IN TRADITION COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

MSC Continued ...



MSC students who participated in the Michigan High School Science Symposium showcased their research projects.

The Math & Science Center empowers students through hands-on learning, challenging projects, and real-world experiences, preparing them for success in college and beyond. From roller coasters to research, MSC students take their education to new heights.



MSC juniors took a thrilling trip to Cedar Point, where they put their physics knowledge to the test. Equipped with accelerometers, they collected data while riding the park's roller coasters. Back in the classroom, they analyzed the data to calculate the acceleration and G-forces experienced on each ride.

MSC seniors embarked on their final capstone experience with an unforgettable trip to Tennessee. Each student group was tasked with educating their peers on a specific topic related to the adventure, which included white water rafting on the Ocoee River, spelunking in Howard's Waterfall Cave, and hiking the scenic Benton Falls trails of Chilhowee Mountain. MSC students spend two to three class periods a day together throughout all four years of high school, and this trip offered them one last chance to learn and explore together before they embark on their college journeys.



Danny Thompson, Dean of Students

Joins Moody on the Market's 40 Under 40 Class of 2024



*Danny Thompson
High School Dean of
Students*

Lakeshore Public Schools is proud to announce that Danny Thompson, Dean of Students at Lakeshore High School, has been named to the prestigious Moody on the Market 40 Under 40 Class of 2024.

At 37, Danny has already made significant contributions

to the educational community. With a Bachelor's in Education and 12 years of teaching experience, he has been a dedicated educator and coach. His 15 years of coaching football, including four as head coach, highlight his commitment to fostering student development both in and out of the classroom.

Danny has been a strong advocate for diversity and inclusion, serving as a DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) club director at every high school he has taught at. He also contributes to the broader community as a member of the Berrien Foundation's review committee.

Danny hopes to further his education with a Master's in Educational Leadership. His motivation to give back stems from the supportive community he grew up in, and he aspires to leave behind a legacy of being a good husband, father, and person.



The "Partee" is a winner!

Lakeshore High School Students Win State Competition with Sailboat Honoring Advocate Curtis Partee

Lakeshore High School students, under the guidance of woodworking teacher Hanns Heil, recently earned first place in the transportation vehicle category at the Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society Convention. Their award-winning project, a beautifully crafted shellback dinghy, was named "The Partee" in honor of Curtis Partee, a beloved student advocate who has spent 12 years building strong relationships with Lakeshore students.

Partee was both surprised and deeply touched to learn that the sailboat bore his name, a tribute chosen by Heil to recognize Partee's positive influence on the school community. This victory marks the second consecutive year that a boat built by Heil's class has claimed the top spot in the state competition. Looking ahead, Heil is considering either constructing another sailboat or exploring furniture design for future contests.

Congratulations to the talented Lakeshore High School students for their outstanding achievement and to Mr. Heil for leading his class to success once again!

**GROUNDING IN TRADITION
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE**

2024-2025 Sponsors of the Lakeshore High School Golf Teams

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the incredible sponsors of the 2024-2025 Lakeshore High School Golf Teams. Your generous support plays a crucial role in the success of our student-athletes, providing them with the resources and opportunities they need to excel both on and off the course.

Because of your contributions, our teams can continue to participate in tournaments, access high-quality equipment, and receive the coaching and mentorship that are essential to their growth and development. Your commitment to our program not only enhances our athletic performance but also instills values of discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship in our students.



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Learn more about the Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship and how to apply by contacting your school counselor. This annual award honors exceptional students who embody Adam Tilly's hard-working traits and integrity.

Three Awarded the Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship

Three outstanding Lakeshore High School seniors have been awarded the Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship. Alec Wojahn has received a \$5,000 scholarship and will be attending Davenport University to major in a health-related field. Taylor Davis has also been awarded a \$5,000 scholarship; she will attend Michigan State University to study Interior Design. Kieran Allan has been awarded \$2,500 and will be attending the University of Michigan to major in Neuroscience.

The Adam Tilly Memorial Scholarship is given annually to exceptional Lakeshore High School seniors who exemplify Adam's hardworking traits and integrity. Adam Tilly was a 2001 graduate of Lakeshore High School and a 2005 graduate of Michigan Technological University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He accepted a position as a Civil Engineer at Pearson Construction before losing his battle with cancer in July 2006.

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