

# Inside Your Schools

## Levy Commitments: *One Year Later*

SPECIAL SECTION

FOCUS ON  
FINANCES

TURN TO PAGE 2

## A NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

# Levy Checkpoint: Doing What We Said We'd Do

**It's been just over a year since the community approved the Lakota Schools levy. And let me tell you—a lot of good things have happened.**

What we said we'd do, we are doing or we've done. It's been a busy year, but an exciting one, especially when you step back and start to see the difference this work is making for our students.

Our plan for how we'd put the additional \$13.8 million to good use was very methodical. Countless community conversations helped us partner with you—our residents, parents and businesses—to decide what our schools needed most to remain competitive. Those conversations have continued, by the way, bringing us together to tackle different topics like gifted education, diversity and

modernization of our course offerings, another commitment of the levy.

Last February, we started with the things we could turn around most quickly. We expanded busing for our elementary students. Getting kids to school is a basic necessity. We worked quickly to increase the law enforcement officers in our schools, too, translating to more safety training programs and daily support of our students and staff.

As early as December 2013, we initiated a financial cap for families with multiple kids participating in after-school activities. We also lowered the individual participation fees for junior high and high school students last spring. We're already seeing climbing participation rates, which has been our goal all along.

Other commitments have taken significantly more planning to imple-

ment because they involve staffing decisions, scheduling changes and frankly, more conversations, among both our community and our staff.

We started offering fourth- through sixth-graders one additional day of art, music or physical education each week. These areas continue to be top of mind for our teachers, as they work to integrate them into their classwork, wherever possible. Similarly, we added an extra class period in grade nine, giving students more flexibility to schedule the classes they need and want at a critical point in their high school careers.

Perhaps our heaviest lifting has been in the area of instructional technology. Upgrading our infrastructure involves updating the technology our teachers and students use, as well as the system that connects them to each other and the world outside of Lakota. Much of this work was completed over the summer, but it's only the start to a multi-year plan that ensures our infrastructure remains modern and supports a modern curriculum. We've also created a Digital Learning Team to guide our teachers in using the technology to boost student learning.

None of this would have been possible without the community's support, and for that, we are grateful.



**DR. KAREN MANTIA**  
SUPERINTENDENT



**It's been a busy year, but an exciting one, especially when you step back and start to see the difference this work is making for our students.**



MORE ON LAKOTA ARTS, PAGE 6.



### EDITOR'S NOTE

Lakota is committed to keeping the community informed about our schools through programs like Community Conversations and this bi-annual publication. This issue of "Inside Your Schools" focuses on Lakota's finances, especially as they relate to the November 2013 levy commitments. More school news and updates can be found on Lakota's website, [lakotaonline.com](http://lakotaonline.com).

### COVER PHOTO:

Hopewell Junior seventh-grader Saria Ramphal films her classmates Zain Salahudeen (left) and Connor Rose (right) for their newscast about the Roman Empire. Students throughout Lakota are using advanced technology for a more modern approach to learning and preparing for their future careers.

Cover: Jenny Walters Photography

It's eye-opening to watch Jack Wahl, a third-grade science teacher at Union, conduct the class. He rarely has to ask his students to focus. In fact, they're so immersed that he has to work to get their attention.

"This is what it looks like when students are completely engaged," he said. "They're so excited about getting the chance to do this. After we started, they asked me, 'You mean, we get to do this four times a week?' They're motivated to learn. They drive themselves."

Every student will have at least six weeks to explore the

STEAM<sup>2</sup> (science, technology, engineering, arts/design, mathematics and medical) lab during their daily Tutoring & Enrichment period, a time for students in all the elementary schools to build upon core subject areas.

The lab is about exposure to a different way of thinking and problem-solving through the use of advanced technology. Imagining, planning, creating, testing and improving—they're the skills they'll need in any job, especially high-demand fields like engineering, information technology and biomedical sciences.

One recent challenge incorporated science, math, reading and computing skills. Students were asked to write computer programs directing robots to complete different tasks. By

making the robot move in a square, students learned the meaning of perimeter. They also read and comprehended the directions and learned the value of testing a hypothesis by trial and error.

Developing the new studio challenged Union's staff to put their own design skills and creativity to work. Wheels added to the room's tables transformed them into flexible workspaces. Even the robots were partially purchased using funds generated from the school's completion of an after-school coding class last school year.

The overwhelming interest in that coding class was the first inspiration behind the new studio. Another was staff members who were quick to embrace the concept.

The lab is about exposure to a different way of thinking and problem-solving through the use of advanced technology.

"Good things happen when your staff takes charge of new initiatives like this," said Union Principal Ben Brown.

"Ultimately, we're preparing students for the job market 10 years from now," said Assistant Principal Kyle Lichey. "Regardless of what that looks like, we know they'll need these skills." ●

**The Nov. 2013 levy committed to funding MODERNIZED LEARNING.**

**What does that mean?**

It depends who you ask. Business leaders want students prepared for careers that will look much different than today's jobs. Parents want their children to be prepared for wherever their interests and skills lead them. Residents want their schools to stay relevant while maintaining rigor.

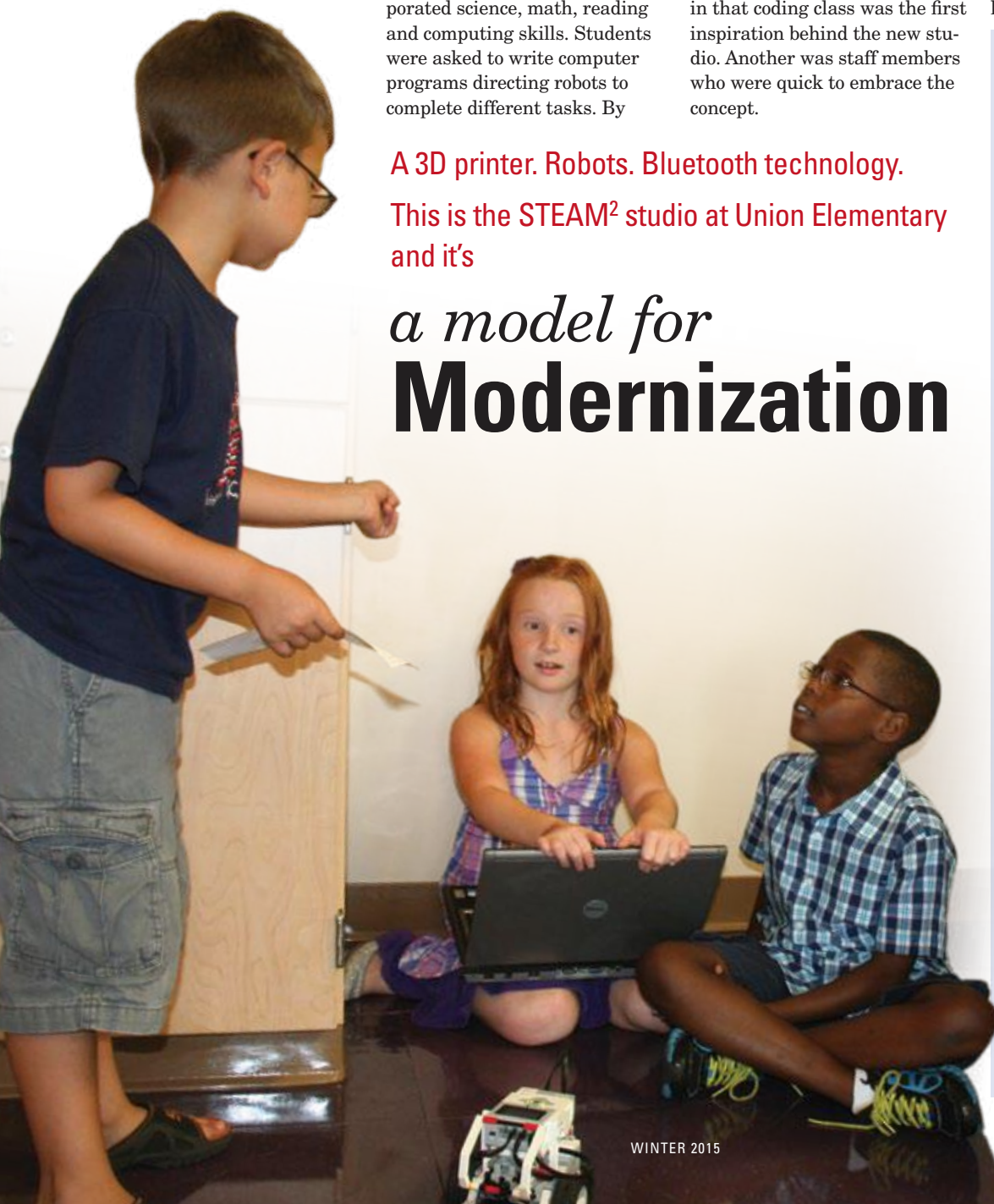
We're using our Community Conversations program, now in its third year, to hear from everyone on this topic. Conversations about modernization generally fall into two areas: content and delivery. We talk about what we teach, and how we teach it.

So far, community input, combined with data and best practices, has resulted in several brand new course offerings for next school year. We're also remodeling current courses to accommodate different uses of technology. Other areas like summer enrichment, career exploration and intervention services also top the list of modernized offerings.

A 3D printer. Robots. Bluetooth technology.

This is the STEAM<sup>2</sup> studio at Union Elementary and it's

*a model for*  
**Modernization**



Left to right: Union third-graders Kyle Bylone, Tori Grim and Nathan Walker



"Hand full of money"  
Mixed media jewelry created in 2014 by  
Lakota East student Garret Murtaugh

*From the Treasurer*

## Strong Schools, Strong Finances

**WITH THE COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT**, the financial position of the Lakota School District is good.



**Jenni L. Logan**

As you can see on the following pages, our spending is in line with revenue, and we have a carefully developed plan for the coming years that supports the mission and vision of the Lakota Schools. At the same time, I take very seriously the responsibility and trust placed in me by the Lakota Board of Education, to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars. In Lakota we get a very good return on our investment, when compared to similar school districts across Ohio.

There are still challenges. The greatest of these continues to be the relative unpredictability of the state funding system. Each of the last two governors implemented an entirely new funding plan for public schools. If that pattern continues, it makes any sort of long-term financial planning even more difficult. A stable school funding system would be a great help to school leaders throughout Ohio.

The levy passed by voters in November 2013 was critical to the financial health and stability of the school district. It allowed us to preserve the programs that form the basis of Lakota's educational offerings, and to add or restore other carefully selected services. A continuing benefit of the levy is that 2.0 mills is expressly dedicated to the "Permanent Improvement" fund, or capital expenses. This will help ensure that our 25 buildings are properly maintained, our strategic plan for instructional technology can be implemented, and our building safety enhancements can be made.

Our enrollment has decreased slightly in the last couple of years. This is primarily due to demographics — the increase in "empty nesters" and slowing of young families entering the district. But the recovery of the real estate markets and residential homebuilding has offset that to a degree. We do not expect major changes in enrollment in either direction, over the near term. I mention this because our funding is based, in part, on our enrollment.

Lakota offers a good return on investment to our community. On the following pages you will see revenue and expenditure data for fiscal year 2014. We have also included comparison data for other school districts in the area. We believe we offer a great product (education) for a competitive price.

I would like to express my appreciation to a great team in the Treasurer's Office. Because of their work, we've earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, for 13 years in a row. That's an award given by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA), and the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) for our comprehensive annual financial report. The award signifies our annual report demonstrates a spirit of full disclosure about the district's finances.

Through this piece, we are presenting financial information that we believe will be useful in understanding the financial picture of your school district. If you are interested in looking at more detailed information, it can be found on our school district website, at lakotaonline.com.

**JENNI L. LOGAN**  
*Treasurer*

## Focus on Finances

# Lakota's Financial Health: Short- and Long-term

Twice a year, Lakota must file a five-year forecast with the Ohio Department of Education. This forecast includes three years of historical data and five years of projections. Projections are based on current assumptions and present only a snapshot report.

Lakota's leadership uses the forecast as a management tool for short- and long-term planning. For example, the spending deficit predicted in 2019 is four years away; this occurs when expenditures exceed revenue. This helps us foresee financial challenges so we can address them now. Of course, not everything we predict will occur. But we must make reasonable assumptions and plan accordingly.

Lakota's financial stability has drastically improved for two reasons: \$20 million in expenditure reductions and the passage of the November 2013

levy. We operate on a balanced budget and our cash balances are increasing. Cost containment practices, implemented during our expenditure

reduction phase, remain in place. But state funding is continually uncertain and beyond our control, and the governor's preliminary budget

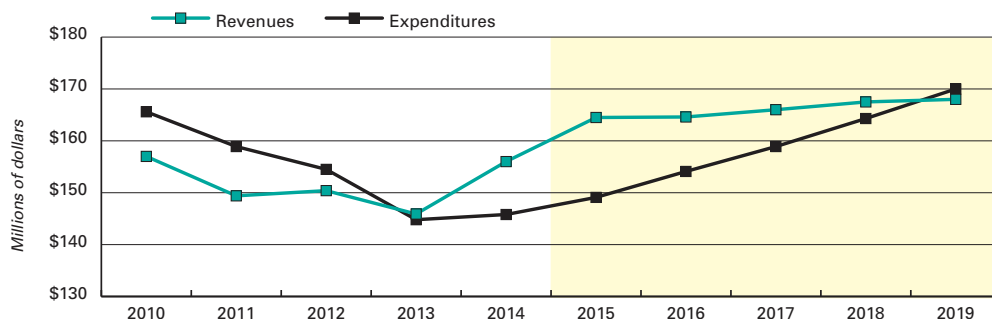
proposal is concerning.

Our levy request was strategic and targeted and we are following through on our commitments. ●

### Historical and Projected Financial Outlook

|                   | Actual  |         |         |         |         | Forecast |         |         |         |         |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                   | 2010    | 2011    | 2012    | 2013    | 2014    | 2015     | 2016    | 2017    | 2018    | 2019    |
| Beginning Cash    | \$45.7  | \$37.1  | \$27.6  | \$23.5  | \$24.7  | \$34.8   | \$50.2  | \$60.7  | \$67.9  | \$71.1  |
| Revenues          | \$157.0 | \$149.4 | \$150.4 | \$145.9 | \$156.0 | \$164.5  | \$164.6 | \$166.0 | \$167.5 | \$168.0 |
| Expenses          | \$165.6 | \$158.9 | \$154.5 | \$144.8 | \$145.8 | \$149.1  | \$154.1 | \$158.9 | \$164.3 | \$170.0 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | (\$8.6) | (\$9.5) | (\$4.1) | \$1.1   | \$10.1  | \$15.4   | \$10.5  | \$7.1   | \$3.2   | (\$1.9) |
| Ending Cash       | \$37.1  | \$27.6  | \$23.5  | \$24.7  | \$34.8  | \$50.2   | \$60.7  | \$67.9  | \$71.1  | \$69.2  |

All dollar amounts are in millions; year indicates fiscal year (begins on July 1 and ends on June 30).



## PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUNDS GO TO WORK

Two of Lakota's head custodians, Don Smith at Hopewell Junior and Rick Larkin at Hopewell Elementary, faced an unusual challenge preparing for this school year. Thanks to the levy's permanent improvement funds, their schools could replace their original, 40- and 50-year-old heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

To finish by the end of summer, crews began in April, working from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

Both Smith and Larkin started their days making sure the areas were safe for students.

Once summer began, the crews moved in full time, installing new, computer-controlled

Trane systems to replace the patchwork of inefficient window units in both schools.

"Just here at the junior high school, it's at least a mile of copper and steel pipes," Smith said.

By August, both buildings were operating more efficiently – thanks to these guys and the funding for two long-overdue maintenance projects. ●

Rick Larkin (left) and Don Smith



### FYI

Replacing the original HVAC systems at both Hopewell schools was a \$7.9 million project, made possible by the Nov. 2013 levy. The schools' close proximity allowed Lakota to save money by doing the jobs simultaneously.

## Focus on Finances

## Where the Money Comes From

• **LOCAL (49%)**

The largest revenue source—local—includes real estate tax receipts.

• **STATE (35%)**

State revenue comes from a variety of sources including state education funding, homestead and rollback reimbursement, tangible personal property tax reimbursement and casino revenue.

• **OTHER (12%)**

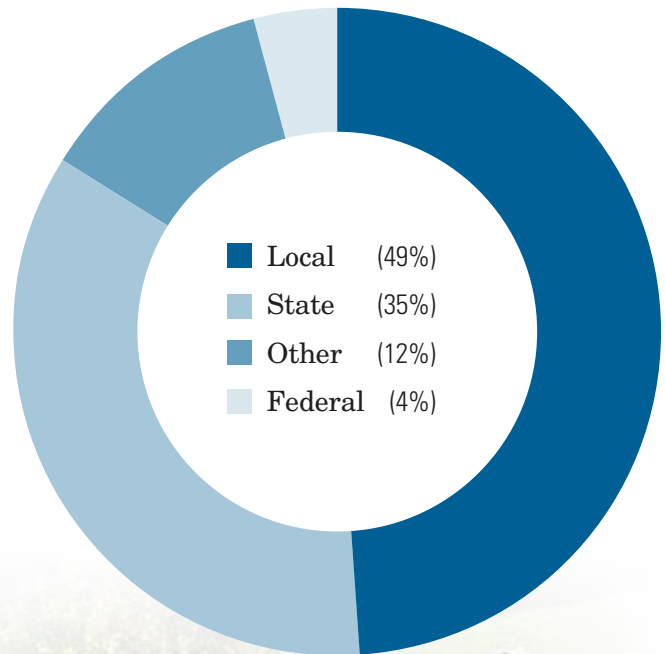
Other revenue is primarily comprised of payments in lieu of tax receipts from TIF (Tax Increment Financing) agreements with Butler County, Liberty Township and West Chester Township. An example of this is the

additional revenue we are projecting upon completion of the new Liberty Center development. Once complete, Lakota will receive payments from the County, estimated to be \$1.5 million annually. The additional revenue equates to less than 1% of our total annual revenue. These TIF agreements were created to encourage economic development in the area.

• **FEDERAL (4%)**

Federal dollars are restricted dollars that must be spent in accordance with federal guidelines.

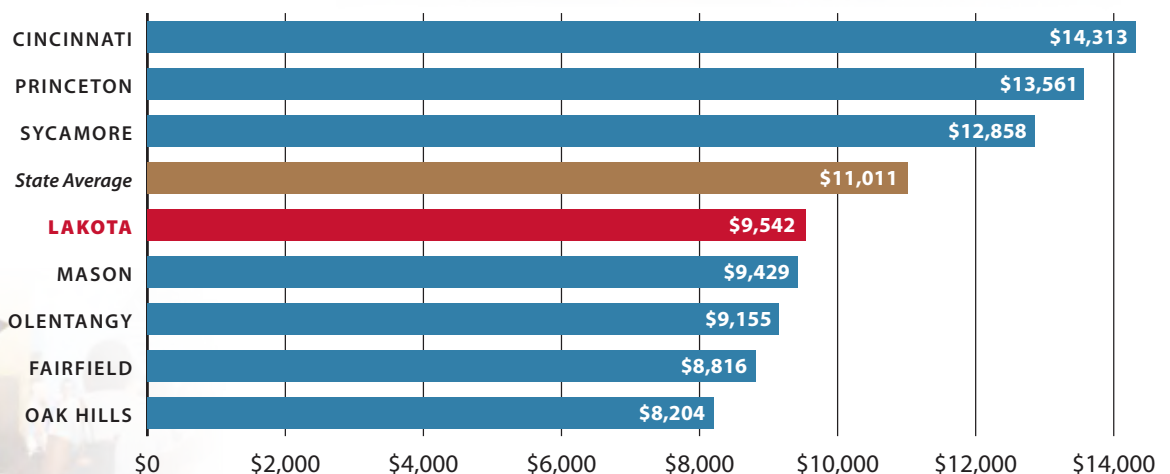
Source: Ohio Department of Education, FY 2014



*Did you know...* State funding for Lakota has dropped 7% in the last five years.

Source: Ohio Department of Education

## Revenue per pupil (FY 2014)



Source: Ohio Department of Education, FY 2014

## Focus on Finances

### Where the Money Goes

#### • INSTRUCTION (59%)

Activities involving teacher and student interaction, including co-curricular activities. Includes teachers, aides or assistants engaged in instruction.

#### • BUILDING OPERATIONS (21%)

Includes building services (utilities and insurance), care and upkeep of grounds and equipment, transportation, security, fiscal services and food services.

#### • ADMINISTRATION (12%)

Includes executive and building administration services.

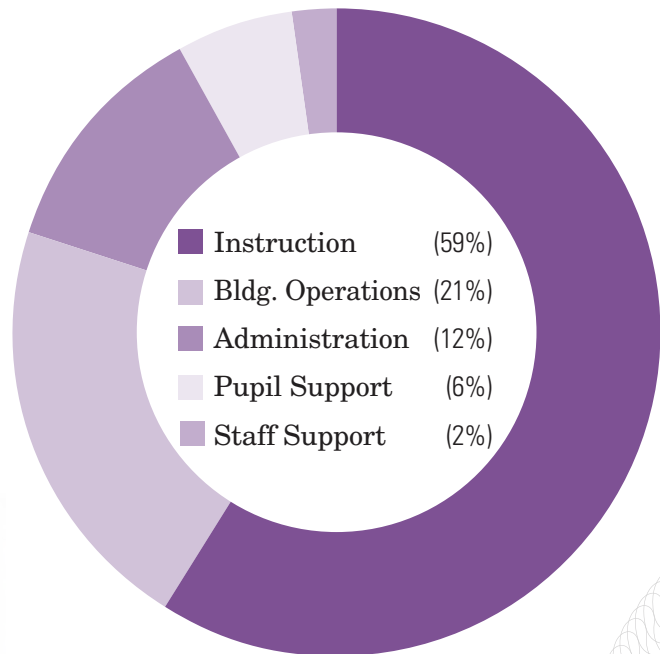
#### • PUPIL SUPPORT (6%)

Includes attendance, social work, student accounting, counseling, student appraisal, information, record maintenance, and placement services. Also includes medical, dental, nursing, psychological and speech services.

#### • STAFF SUPPORT (2%)

Includes instruction improvement, curriculum development, instructional staff training, academic assessment, and media, library and instruction-related technology services.

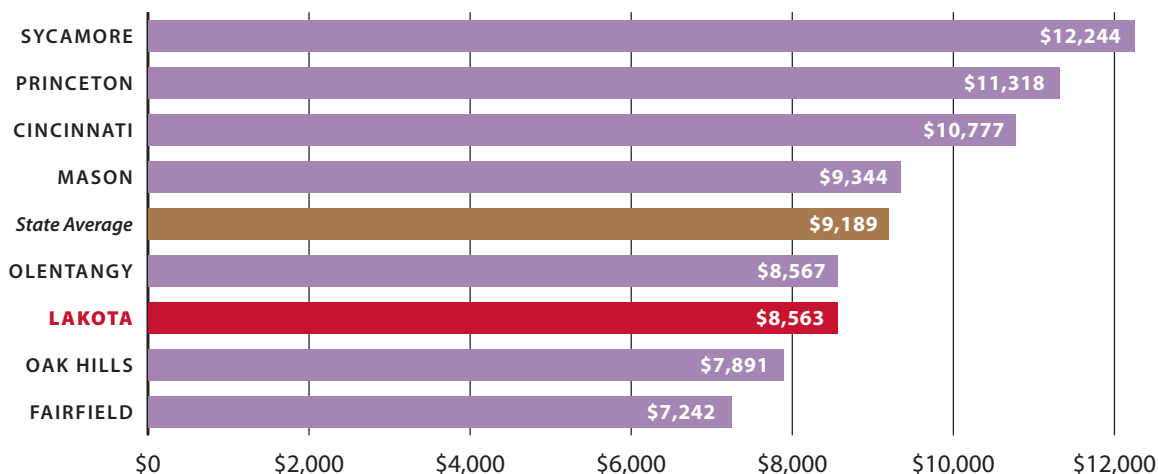
Source: Ohio Department of Education, FY 2014



*Did you know...* Lakota has 293 students for each administrator, compared to the state average of 164.

Source: Ohio Department of Education

### Spending per pupil (FY 2014)



Source: Ohio Department of Education, FY 2014

*Lakota's arts programs and after-school enrichment activities provide many options for students to explore their creative sides.*

**BAND** is an extra-curricular option as early as elementary school. Students can continue through junior high school before joining the ranks of Lakota's award-winning concert and marching bands at the high schools.

Since Lakota East and Lakota West high schools opened in 1997, both their marching and symphonic winds bands have received **top ratings at state competitions**. Lakota also has



record numbers of **students selected to district and state honor bands** each year. In the last two years, the marching bands have been invited to appear in internationally-televised parades like the **Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade** (pictured above), the **Hollywood Christmas Parade** and the **Tournament of Roses Parade** (twice)—trips all made possible by fundraising support. ●

## FYI

A combination of student fees and donations from parent support groups, not district funds, are the primary source for extra-curricular student trips.



Students interested in **VISUAL ARTS** can choose from 14 different class offerings at the junior high and high school levels.

Students participate in numerous **art exhibitions at the local, state and national levels**, and frequently win awards based on their art pieces. Last year, AP art students earned **over a million dollars in academic and portfolio scholarships**. Community partners like **IKEA West Chester** support Lakota's visual arts program. The annual "Dress Me Up" silent auction features student-painted three-drawer dressers and framed artwork (pictured above). ●



Lakota's high school **CHOIR** programs build upon the foundation set in junior high, exposing students to vocal pedagogy, music theory, ear training, sight reading and more.

Beyond their school performances, choral students share their talents outside the classroom, too. Lakota East choirs perform an **annual holiday concert with the West Chester Symphony** (pictured above) and raise funds to travel to **Disney World Orlando for workshops and performances**. Lakota West's choirs fundraised to attend a **three-day music workshop** with The Young Americans, a musical outreach group, and **workshops in Nashville**. ●

**THEATER** programs are now in several junior high schools, giving younger students the the chance to perform or manage a show.

At Plains Junior School, one in seven students is involved in the annual production. **Opportunities abound in high school**, where multiple productions call for acting, singing, set design, choreography, technical support and more. Lakota **East's fall musical is directed entirely by students**. Lakota **West teamed up with the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company** this year for a performance of *Othello*. ●



# A | T | H | L | E | T | I | C | S

*Lakota's athletic programs bring out the best in our student-athletes, both on and off the field.*

Lakota East and Lakota West high schools draw significant participation through their **26 varsity sports programs.**

Over the past 10 years, more than 500 Lakota student-athletes have earned **millions of dollars in scholarships** and have gone on to play at the collegiate level.

These talented athletes are matched by equally talented coaching staffs; **Lakota coaches are regularly named conference coaches of the year**, and many have reached milestone wins in their coaching careers.

Lakota schools compete in the **Greater Miami Conference, one of the best public school conferences** in Ohio.

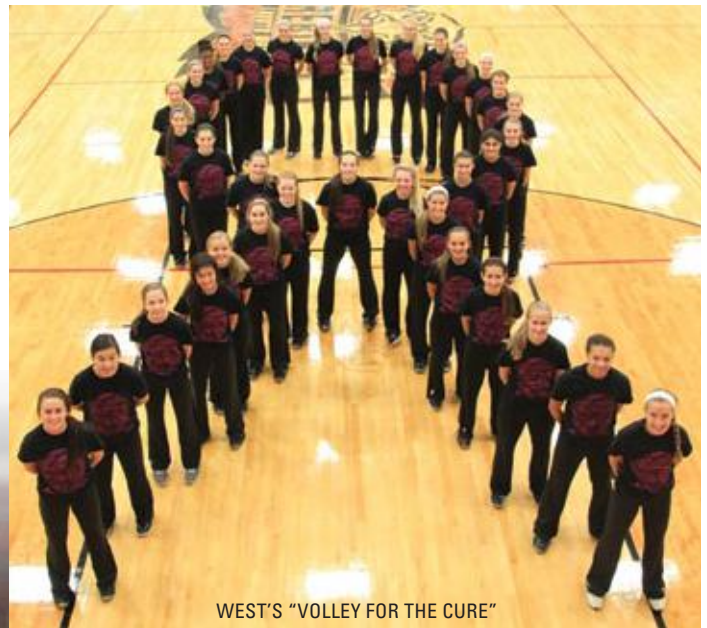
**More than 2,600 students participate in school-sponsored sports offered in the fall, winter and spring at Lakota's junior high schools and high schools.**

Just this school year, Lakota **cross country and soccer teams advanced to the state championships.**

For the first time in district history, the two high school **football teams faced each other in the postseason**, both advancing to the Sweet 16.



EAST'S "HAWKS FOR THE CURE"



WEST'S "VOLLEY FOR THE CURE"

EAST VS. WEST TAKE 2



## FYI

With the Nov. 2013 levy's passage, Lakota introduced a family cap and reduced participation fees for its extra-curricular programs. Over the past year, participation in winter athletic programs has increased by 9 percent at the high school level and 10 percent at the junior high level.

Lakota teams come together to support numerous community service projects. Lakota West's **"Volley for the Cure"** has raised more than \$110,000 in the past decade to support breast cancer awareness and research.

Lakota East's athletic department will raise more than \$50,000 for cancer research this year through several major fundraising initiatives they call **"Hawks for the Cure."** ●

Each **Lakota Board of Education** meeting features **STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**. Here's a look at a few of this year's recognitions.



Lynda O'Connor  
President



Todd Parnell  
Vice President



Ben Dibble  
Board Member



Ray Murray  
Board Member



Julie Shaffer  
Board Member

#### LAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION



Union Elementary Assistant Principal Kyle Lichey (left) accompanied fifth-graders Samiksha Mukherjee (center) and Brynn Adamson (right). The 10-year-olds write and perform their own songs and **helped start the school's weekly "Student Showcase,"** giving students the opportunity to share their talents with their classmates during lunch.

*"I'm proud to see our staff finding creative ways to integrate character education and exposure to the arts."* BEN DIBBLE



**Student directors from Lakota West's and Lakota East's theater programs** shared details about their fall productions. **TOP:** Lakota West students included (in front, starting third from left) Molly Morrow, Justin Hutchings, Abbi Voda, Patrick O'Connor and Theater Director Kim Eldridge (back row, right). **BOTTOM:** Lakota East Theater Director Kristen Statt (left) joined her students (front row, left to right) Hannah Ferber, Kailey Macke, Emily Gold, Daniel Omaitis, Amy Adams and Abigail Downs.

*"Lakota's theater programs are top-notch. Students and staff dedicate countless hours of work to staging high-quality productions the entire community can enjoy."* LYNDA O'CONNOR



Lakota East senior Cooper Towns (left) and Lakota West seniors Lauren Reder (center) and Isabelle Tessier (third from right) were invited to share their experiences as the first **participants in the district's engineering internship program at Procter & Gamble's Beckett Ridge Technical Center.**

*"The local business community's support has been critical to growing our internship program and giving high school students early exposure to different career paths."* TODD PARNELL



Lakota East senior Oseji Azuka (third from left) and Lakota West senior Justin Hutchings (second from right) were named semifinalists in this year's **National Achievement Scholarship Program**. Their PSAT scores qualified them for the National Merit Scholarship Corporation's academic competition recognizing Black American high school seniors.

*"Our students' consistent representation at the national level of competition speaks volumes to the caliber of academic talent we have here at Lakota."* JULIE SHAFFER



Lakota East High School students (left to right) James Leonard, Caleb Vanden Eynden, Megan Dendler and Paul Moak modeled this year's **new marching band uniforms made possible by volunteers' fundraising efforts.**

*"I see our marching bands playing all over the community. It's great to have such dedicated and talented students representing our schools."* RAY MURRAY

## Spotlight on staff

## TEACHERS USING TECHNOLOGY

## JOE SCHORR AND TRACEY PARKS

# How can you bring topics like Ancient Rome and the Pythagorean theorem to life for students? Try using **TECHNOLOGY**.

**THAT'S** what two seventh-grade teachers from Hopewell Junior School did. Tracey Parks's World Studies students filmed short newscasts about the Roman Empire, while Joe Schorr had his students apply math concepts through ESPN-style sports broadcasts.

"We are always looking for ways to help students own their own learning," Parks said. "These projects really helped our students think differently."

Schorr said his students are always asking, "When are we ever going to use this?" So, he developed his lesson around the Pythagorean theorem. Students presented a math problem in the

context of a sport, and then used the equation to solve it during a short video.

"The project was a great way to infuse technology into learning—but not just for the sake of using technology," Schorr said. Students used the school's updated computer lab to research topics and substantiate their findings. The lab's touchscreen

## FYI

**Some of the Permanent Improvement funds from the Nov. 2013 levy helped Lakota purchase more than 1,600 new student devices for classroom use, replacing computers that were last upgraded between 7.5 and 10 years ago.**

Lakota's **DIGITAL LEARNING TEAM** is a direct result of the last levy's operating funds. The director and six specialists spend time in Lakota's 22 schools every week to help teachers integrate the technology available to them in their daily instruction. All are former Lakota teachers with a combined 99 years of teaching experience. The team provides professional development to entire school staffs, in small groups or one-on-one.

As one recent example, digital leaning specialist Lindsay Conklin was critical to a recent class project led by Liberty Early Childhood School teachers Eunice Vogelsang and Kristin Sellers. For the first time, they and their first-graders produced videos, accessed through QR codes, to help the community see what they learned. Scan this QR code with your smartphone to watch a video about the making of the Polar Express.



tablets have built-in cameras for filming.

Parks's students used those same computers for their newscasts. Each group was assigned a different time period in Ancient Rome, for which they researched people, events and issues to form stories around.

The work involved in-depth research, script writing, production, editing and of course, technology.

"My students practiced their critical thinking and analytical skills," Parks said. "What they learned will be helpful well beyond this one project." •

Hopewell Junior teachers Joe Schorr and Tracey Parks were both selected for the Ohio Teacher Showcase Project, which spotlights educators using technology for project-based learning. Students (left to right) are seventh-graders Ramona Ramphal, Derek Marischen and Emily French.



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*Nothing says "WE ARE LAKOTA" like Lakota West cross country student-athletes cheering on their East counterparts at the 2014 state championship.*

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## Lakota Fast Facts

| THE BASICS                                                                    | OUR STUDENTS                                                        | OUR STAFF                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Schools:</b><br>22                                                         | <b>Student Enrollment:</b><br>16,649                                | <b>Teaching and Licensed Staff:</b><br>950        |
| <b>District Square Mileage:</b><br>63                                         | <b>Attendance Rate*:</b><br>98.5%                                   | <b>Support Staff:</b><br>680                      |
| <b>School Grounds:</b><br>492 acres                                           | <b>Racial Diversity*:</b><br>26.3%                                  | <b>Teachers with Advanced Degrees*:</b><br>78.6%  |
| <b>Building Square Footage:</b><br>2.4 million                                | <b>Four-Year Graduation Rate*:</b><br>95%                           | <b>Average Teaching Experience*:</b><br>14 years  |
| <b>Annual Spending (FY14):</b><br>\$145.8 million                             | <b>Scholarship Dollars Awarded**:</b><br>\$20 million+              | <b>Staff who are Lakota Alumni:</b><br>125+       |
| <b>Expenditure per Pupil (FY14):</b><br>\$8,563 (state average: \$9,189)      | <b>National Merit &amp; National Achievement Finalists**:</b><br>16 | <b>ATHLETICS (7-12)</b>                           |
| <b>Average Daily Operating Costs:</b><br>\$500,000                            | <b>Graduates Pursuing Higher Education**:</b><br>88%                | <b>Participation:</b><br>2,600+ students          |
| <b>Student Transportation:</b><br>158 bus routes<br>12,000 miles driven daily | <b>Advanced Placement Scholars**:</b><br>211                        | <b>High School Varsity Sports:</b><br>26 programs |
| <b>Meals Served Annually:</b><br>1.3 million lunches<br>250,000 breakfasts    |                                                                     | <b>Junior High Sports:</b><br>15 programs         |

\*2013-14 District report card data

\*\*Class of 2014

Data is approximate and based on the most recent figures available.

*An equal opportunity employer,*

**Lakota is always seeking highly-qualified teaching professionals and support staff.**

Visit [lakotaonline.com/employment](http://lakotaonline.com/employment) to submit your resume and application.

## Stay Connected!

### Subscribe to our e-news

Sign up for our district or building e-newsletters or update your email settings at [lakotaonline.com/EmailSignup](http://lakotaonline.com/EmailSignup).

### Like us on Facebook

Join the conversation at [facebook.com/LakotaSchools](https://facebook.com/LakotaSchools).

### Community Conversations

Host a meeting or attend one to share your ideas about Lakota's future. Visit [lakotaonline.com/LakotaListens](http://lakotaonline.com/LakotaListens).

### Download our mobile app

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### Submit a news tip

Visit [lakotaonline.com](http://lakotaonline.com) to share a story about a Lakota student, teacher, event or program.

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