

# Community Link

*The Newsletter of the School District of Lodi*

*August 2022*

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*Perspective*

.....by **Vince Breunig**  
**District Administrator**

## **Community Priorities Drive the District**

The Board of Education in the School District of Lodi engaged the community in a strategic planning process in the spring of 2021 which led to the adoption of a strategic plan by the Board in July of 2021. The District has been working hard over the past year to take these community priorities and put them into action. The District has developed balanced scorecards to document the high confidence strategies the district has chosen to use to meet the priorities set for us by the community. These scorecards can be found on the District's website and on the Strategic Plan page. The administration held a retreat with the Board to take a deeper dive into and review these balanced scorecards in January of 2022. More recently, the District invited all those who participated in the strategic planning process to a gallery walk at the June 2022 Board of Education meeting so they could get a better idea of what these high confidence strategies look like in action. A gallery walk is where Board members and community members in attendance rotate in small groups to different stations to listen and ask questions of staff members on the strategies being implemented across the District.

As we now move into the 2022-23 school year, we are developing new scorecards which will guide our work this coming year in meeting these priorities set for us by the community. The balanced scorecards will be posted to the Strategic Plan page on our website and be analyzed by staff throughout the year, with a formal review occurring for the Board of Education and community at midyear and the end of the 2022-23 school year.

As a District, we continue to ensure that the strategic plan remains a living and breathing document, not one that was created by the community and then put on a shelf. If one looks back at the scorecards, the work that was done in the District last year, and the decisions that were made in the District, it is easy to see the connection to the priorities laid out by the community. Our goal will continue to be ensuring that we are living the vision the community provided us which is: **"In partnership with our community, nurturing every student's potential for growth and opportunities - socially, mentally, & academically- in a safe, respectful, and an inclusive environment to create innovative problem solvers."**





## Make a difference in a child's life. Become a substitute teacher



The School District of Lodi just increased the rates for  
substitute teachers and support staff.  
as of July 1, 2022

Substitute Teacher rates increased from \$130 to \$140/day  
Substitute Administrative Assistant/Educational Assistant rates  
increased from \$12.50 to \$15.00/hour

If interested in a **rewarding opportunity** contact  
Emma Neumaier at [neumaem@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:neumaem@lodischoolswi.org) for more  
information

### Board of Education

*Regular meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at  
5:30 pm closed session /6:30 pm regular session in the  
District Office, unless posted otherwise.*

H. Adam Steinberg ..... *President*  
Angela Lathrop ..... *Vice-President*  
Barb Beyer ..... *Treasurer*  
Terry Haag ..... *Clerk*  
Heather Baron ..... *Director*  
Scott Bilse ..... *Director*  
Kristi McMorris ..... *Director*

Board of Education members' names, contact information,  
committee assignments, meeting agendas and minutes are  
included on the School District of Lodi's website at  
[www.lodi.k12.wi.us](http://www.lodi.k12.wi.us), Board of Education link. If you do not  
have access to the District website, contact Maureen Palmer at  
592-1060 to request this information.

### *Building Phone Numbers*

Primary School .....592-3855  
Primary School Fax .....592-1015  
Elementary School.....592-3842  
Elementary School Fax.....592-1025  
Middle School.....592-3854  
Middle School Fax.....592-1035  
High School .....592-3853  
High School Fax .....592-1045  
District Office .....592-3851  
District Office Fax .....592-3852

# *You're Invited!*

## **Lodi High School All-Class Alumni Reunion**

*Hosted by the LHS Class of 1972*

**Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Lodi Valley Historical Society / Lodi American Legion Hall**

**Lodi, WI**

*Past and Present. Let's Catch Up!!*

### **Schedule of Events**

**1:00 – 3:00 PM Yearbook and Memorabilia Displays** at Lodi Valley Historical Society, 173 South Main Street and American Legion Hall, 169 South Main Street

**12:30 – 1:30 PM Lodi High School Tours** lead by current students and administration, 1100 Sauk Street

**2:00 PM Alumni Association Business Meeting**, American Legion Hall, 169 South Main Street

**2:30 – 3:30 PM Lodi Elementary School (old Lodi High School) Tours** lead by current students and administration, 101 School Street

If you are unable to attend but would like to support the future of this event, and the associated scholarship, send a check payable to the **Lodi Alumni Scholarship Fund**, c/o Geoffrey Vorlander, 327 Sauk St., Lodi, WI 53555. Questions contact Audrey at, [mccubbina@yahoo.com](mailto:mccubbina@yahoo.com)

### **Asbestos Notification**

Under AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act), all primary and secondary schools are required to develop and implement a plan for managing all building materials which contain asbestos. Included in the AHERA Act is the requirement to annually notify all workers and building occupants (or their guardians) of asbestos-related activities.

Beginning in 1988, all buildings owned, leased, or "under the control of" the School District were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors, with building material samples analyzed by an independent laboratory. Based on the inspection, the School District prepared and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for managing the asbestos.

Where the asbestos-containing materials are found, the District has in place an Operations and Maintenance program.

The District has accomplished the following compliance mandates regarding the administration of asbestos in school buildings:

- Environmental Management Consulting, Inc. (EMC) was contracted to be the school's consultant for asbestos for the school year.
- The District is continuing with the Operations and Maintenance Program as designed for the School District. This ensures that all asbestos materials are kept in good condition.
- Periodic "surveillance" in each area containing asbestos has been completed every six months by our consultant. Also, the buildings are re-inspected by an accredited inspector every three years.
- In the past year the District has not conducted any asbestos removal activities

All outside contractors shall contact the lead maintenance person before commencing work. Our goal at the District is to be in full compliance with asbestos regulations.

A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for review by contacting the District Office. Questions related to this plan or any other asbestos concerns should be directed to the District's Designated Person Mr. Neal Reible.

## How do I enroll my new student(s) in the School District of Lodi?

Our **Online Registration** offers families with new students to the district an easy process for entering and providing all required information for enrolling your child(ren) electronically. Please go to the district website:

**www.lodi.k12.wi.us>Our Families> Enrollment/Registration**, and click on the link: **Online Registration Link**.

There will be forms throughout the registration process that will need to be downloaded and completed. You may obtain/download the forms during the registration process or you may also **obtain/download them from our website at [www.lodi.k12.wi.us](http://www.lodi.k12.wi.us)>Our Families>Enrollment/Forms that are on the Online Registration Application tab.**

Once registration is submitted and forms are filled out, you may either bring the completed registration forms along with the required documentation to the Lodi School District Office, located at 115 School Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday or you may also send them via email to [karlskr@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:karlskr@lodischoolswi.org). If you have any questions regarding the enrollment process, please contact Kris Karls at [karlskr@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:karlskr@lodischoolswi.org).



### **Picture Day for 2022**

Picture day will be on August 4, 2022 from 3-7 p.m.

**Information will be sent via Infinite Campus and from Empire Photography**

### **2022 Registration**

If you have not already registered your student for this upcoming year please do so right away by going to the infinite campus parent portal. If you need your user name and password or just need help please contact Kris Karls at 592-1053 or [karlskr@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:karlskr@lodischoolswi.org)

## ***Resources for School Supplies***

### **Free School Supplies for Those in Need**



**Beginning Wednesday, August 4th  
Please contact Reach Out Lodi at  
608-592-4592**

to let them know the grades that your children attend.  
(Leave name and call back # if you get the answering machine.)

Volunteers will pack up the supplies requested for each class & will call you when they are available for pickup at  
Reach Out Lodi Community Store  
located at 601 Clark Street, Lodi



#### **Don't need supplies, but would like to help those who do?**

You may give a financial gift by calling Reach Out Lodi Community Store or mailing your gift to:

Reach Out Lodi Community Store  
P.O. Box 316  
Lodi, WI 53555







# Lodi Community Action Team

*Promoting Healthy Lifestyles for Youth!*



## SAVE THE DATE

for LCAT's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual

# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 2, 2022  
5-8 PM at Habermann Park  
180 Fair Street, Lodi

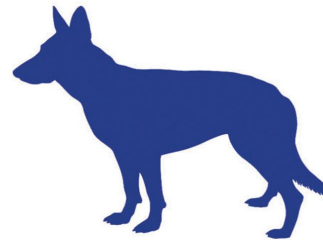


**FIRST RESPONDER & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**



## LET'S CELEBRATE OUR LODI COMMUNITY!

Community demonstrations, booths  
with activities, live music, petting  
zoo, K9 demonstration & MORE!



## EXPLORE EMERGENCY VEHICLES!



## FOOD & ICE CREAM

available for purchase!



**Bring Your Family & Show Your #LodiPride!**



## WHERE TO PARK

Please check our website or Facebook page  
for parking information as the event approaches

Connect with the  
Lodi Community Action Team (LCAT)!

[www.LodiAction.org](http://www.LodiAction.org)



Lodi Community Action Team



# Food Service

## PUBLIC RELEASE SY 21/22 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAMS

The Lodi School District announced its policy for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The following household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free and reduced price meals

### ***FAMILY SIZE INCOME SCALE***

For Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals and Milk

<b>Family (Household) Size</b>	<b>ANNUAL INCOME LEVEL</b>			<b>MONTHLY INCOME LEVEL</b>		
	<b>Free</b> <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	<b>Reduced Price</b> <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>		<b>Free</b> <i>Must be at or below figure listed</i>	<b>Reduced Price</b> <i>Must be at or between figures listed</i>	
1	\$17,667	\$17,667.01	and \$25,142	\$ 1,473	\$1,473.01	and \$2,096
2	23,803	23,803.01	and 33,874	1,984	1,984.01	and 2,823
3	29,939	29,939.01	and 42,606	2,495	2,495.01	and 3,551
4	36,075	36,075.01	and 51,338	3,007	3,007.01	and 4,279
5	42,211	42,211.01	and 60,070	3,518	3,518.01	and 5,006
6	48,347	48,347.01	and 68,802	4,029	4,029.01	and 5,734
7	54,483	54,483.01	and 77,534	4,541	4,541.01	and 6,462
8	60,609	60,609.01	and 86,266	5,052	5,052.01	and 7,189
For each additional household member add	+6,136	+6,136	and +8,732	+512	+512	and +728

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a notice to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school (unless notified at the start of the school year that children are eligible through direct certification). Additional copies are available at the office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by agency or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

To obtain free or reduced price meals for children in a household where one or more household members receive FoodShare, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Wisconsin Works (W-2) cash benefits, list the FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 case number, program name, list the names of all school children, sign the application, and return it to the school office.

For the school officials to determine eligibility for free or reduced price meals of households not receiving FoodShare, FDPIR or W-2 cash benefits, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, total number of household members, and the adult signing the application form must also list the last four digits of his or her Social Security Number or mark the box to the right of "Check if no SSN". Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.).

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price meal policy Brent Richter, Business Manager will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent/guardian wishes to make a formal appeal, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing to: Terry Haag, School Board Clerk 115 School Street, Lodi, WI 53555, phone 608/592-3851 ext 5482 or email [haagte@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:haagte@lodischoolswi.org).

If a hearing is needed to appeal the decision, the policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the school. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals if the household income falls at or below the levels shown above, and they may reapply at that time.

Children formally placed in foster care are also eligible for free meal benefits. Foster children may be certified as eligible without a household application. Households with foster children and non-foster children may choose to include the foster child as a household member, as well as any personal income available to the foster child, on the same application that includes their non-foster children.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. Public Law 103-448 limits the release of student free and reduced price school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs. Consent of the parent/guardian is needed for other purposes such as waiver of text book fees.

#### Non-discrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online

at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA.

The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant  
Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official.





#### Important Dates:

August 4	Picture Day 3-7pm
August 29	4K AM Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 30	4K PM Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 30	K-2 Sneak-a-peek 3:30-5:30pm
August 30	ES/OSC Sneak-a-Peek 4-6pm
August 26	MS Open House 3:30-5:30pm
August 31	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation 6:00-8:30pm
September 1	First Day of School (Gr. 4K-9)
September 1	HS Freshman & New Student Orientation
September 2	First Day of School for Gr. 10-12
September 5	No School – Labor Day
September 7	District Wide Picture Retakes



# **Lodi C.R.E.W. and Pool**

Community Resource Enrichment and Wellness

C.R.E.W. works hard at developing programming for all community members. We pay special attention to our community needs and wants then we develop programs to enrich the lives of our community.

*No one is ever turned away from our offerings*

## **Some of C.R.E.W. Fall offerings:**



**“Little Explorers”** program is an outstanding collaboration with the High School staff and students. This program offers a great “first experience” of learning for 3 and 4 year olds.

**“Movement and Strength”** is a program for our adult population. This class is instructed by Stephanie Caves providing guidance enhancing strength, flexibility and functional movement.

**“No School Days with CREW”** is a wonderful program to help keep kids occupied when there is no school day. Everything from bus trips, crafting, movies and games can be expected.

**Flag football, youth cross country, Boot camp, Minecraft and Zumba** are some of our most popular offerings along with several others.



CREW initiated the Primary School **Recess Mileage Club** with a grant from Sauk Prairie Healthcare Foundation last spring. CREW purchased the software and incentive package to begin a fun option for kids at recess. This turned out to be a very successful program and with assistance from the Primary and Elementary Schools the program will be in full force at both schools giving kids yet another opportunity at recess. In 8-9 weeks at 1 recess 1st and 2nd Grade had a combined total of 668.5 miles, with a student reaching 22 miles!





## The Lodi Indoor Community Pool



This Fall a brand new program is coming to our pool due to the generosity of others donating to Ken and Jackie Smith's fundraising efforts. Thanks to everyone who donated to "Miles for CREW" on Ken's attempt to hike the Appalachian Trail we are purchasing a Log and will implement a **Log Rolling program - Lumber JackKen.**

**Fun Fact:** Our pool Aquatics Manager who is a Red Cross Certified Lifeguard and Water Safety Trainer, collaborates with the high school phy. ed. staff to offer Lifeguard and Water Safety certifications to high school students through their phy. ed. Class.

### **Here is a list of some of the pool offerings:**

- Swim Lessons (including private lessons)
- Parent/tot swim lessons
- Aqua Fitness classes (H2O Happy Hour)
- Open lap and family swims
- Pool rental opportunities (such as birthday parties and more!)
- Pool memberships
- Red Cross Lifeguard and WSI certifications
- Blue Wave Swim Team (registration begins in Nov.)

PLEASE help in our efforts to save money and resources. C.R.E.W. and POOL are working hard to use less paper. Please check our on-line registration, web page and Facebook page for information and registrations. We are also working on QR codes and other ways to help in our communication efforts. This will help us in keeping costs down and help with saving a tree!

Indoor Community Pool website:

<https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/community/community-indoor-pool>

CREW Website:

<https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/community/community-resource-enrichment-wellness>

Like us on Facebook: Lodi CREW

Call us at 608.592.1076



## *Business Office Briefs*

*Brent Richter – Business Manager ♦592-3851 ♦richtbr@lodischoolswi.org*

### **Summer Time = Busy Time**

Summer is a busy time for the Business Office. A school's fiscal year begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th. This means we close up one set of books, prepare for an audit and begin the fiscal reporting process (to the state and federal governments) all while we start the new year, meaning contracts execution, employee benefits changes, purchasing, grant execution, and so much more. Why do schools have a financial audit? The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has the statutory responsibility to prescribe financial and membership audit requirements. In a nutshell, not only is it prudent and incredibly important for a business, but it's a statutory requirement. The annual audits are published on the district's webpage, at: <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/our-district/business-services>.

### **Funding Schools:**

Public schools in Wisconsin are funded with a combination of revenues including various state and federal education aids. In Lodi, state aids represent about 35-40 percent of school funding and federal aids represent approximately 5-10 percent of school funding. The remaining revenue sources are from local revenues, such as property taxes, materials fees, and rental fees. State aids are defined as either "General Aids" or "Categorical Aids." General aid is provided primarily through a formula that distributes aid on the basis of the relative fiscal capacity of each school district as measured by the district's per pupil value of taxable property. Categorical aids represent specific program costs and are paid on a formula basis or awarded as grants.

### **Today's Big Challenge?**

When I'm out and about in the community, I often get asked what the biggest challenge I see facing our schools today is. Some people question, is it health insurance? While others ask, is it school funding? While these are two big challenges, my response is "the changing labor pool." That response is often greeted with a nod and a smile, as most people agree and see the world around us having the same issue. School districts have seen unprecedented staff transiency. Some schools have become very aggressive, employing very creative techniques to attract and retain staff. Because there is incredible competition for workers in schools today, the School District of Lodi is looking closely at how to recruit, attract and retain the best work force possible, which also happens to be one of the pillars of the School District of Lodi's Strategic Plan, "District Workforce". <https://www.lodi.k12.wi.us/about/lodi-strategic-plan>. Having a competitive wage is one of the key factors in keeping a strong workforce. The district is very thankful for such a wonderful and supportive community, which in a challenging economic climate, continues to support the schools by another passed referendum.

### **Business Office Staff Changes**

The Lodi Business Office again is again seeing positional changes. Former Accounts Payable Clerk, Kris Karls, moved to the position of District Registrar/Administrative Assistant to the Director of Student Services, while Former District Office Receptionist/Human Resources Assistant, will now be the Accounts Payable Clerk/Human Resources Assistant. We welcome Kris Lehman to her new position and wish Kris Karls the best in her new role.

### *Did you know?*

- Senior Citizens over 62 years old that live within the school district can get free passes to the home sporting events. Just contact Maureen Palmer at 608-592-1060.
- Senior Citizens over 62 years old that live within the school district can get a free pool pass. Contact the pool at 592-3853 ext. 4577



## Curriculum and Instruction

*Dr. Nicholas Karls – Director of Curriculum & Instruction ♦592-3851 ♦karlsni@lodischoolswi.org*

The 2021/2022 school year is one that I will look back on fondly as the catalyst for a plethora of innovation across the district. This past school year, we began implementing the community-developed strategic plan. As outlined within this plan, the Department of Curriculum and Instruction has been tasked with making updates and investments in academic areas such as career and technical education, academic & career planning, math, literacy, etc. We are beginning to see a deep level of coherence and commitment across the district within these areas of focus, and I am excited to see how we can continue to bring the community's vision for our district to fruition during the 2022/2023 school year. The Lodi School District is truly unique, where we are able to pair a small-town feel with many of the student opportunities only offered by larger districts. It's a great time to be a Blue Devil!

### Preparing for the Future - Supporting Career & Technical Education



**DWD Grant** - Feedback provided from the community during the strategic planning process clearly identified future investments in Career and Technical Education (CTE) as a priority. During the 2021/2022 school year, after doing a walkthrough of our spaces with department leaders, it became apparent that outdated and ineffective equipment had to be updated to give students the experience and skills required to prepare them for industry. District leaders began looking at grant opportunities to support these much needed updates. Recently, the district was awarded another grant from the Department of Workforce Development. This grant is for \$19,200 and will be used to update welding equipment that was brought over long ago from the former High School. It will also be used to support a laser engraver and 3D printer. We are thankful for the continued support from the DWD!



**Career and Technical Education (CTE) Incentive Grant** - The School District of Lodi recently received word that nine students from the 2021 graduating class qualified for the CTE Incentive Grant. The district receives grant funds from the Department of Public Instruction for each student that successfully completes their high school career with an Industry Recognized Certification or Youth Apprenticeship (YA) experience. Youth Apprenticeship is a work-based learning experience that students can participate in while still attending Lodi High School. As a result, the district will receive up to \$9,000 to reinvest in YA and certification programs for future Lodi High School students.

### Preparing for the Future - Academic Excellence



**CAPP - Spanish V Dual Credit Update** - During the 2020/2021 school year, the district decided to partner with the UW-Oshkosh Cooperative Academic Partnership Program (CAPP) to offer a dual credit option to students taking Spanish V at Lodi High School during the 2021/2022 school year.

Dual credit means that students are able to earn both high school and college credit. We are excited to announce

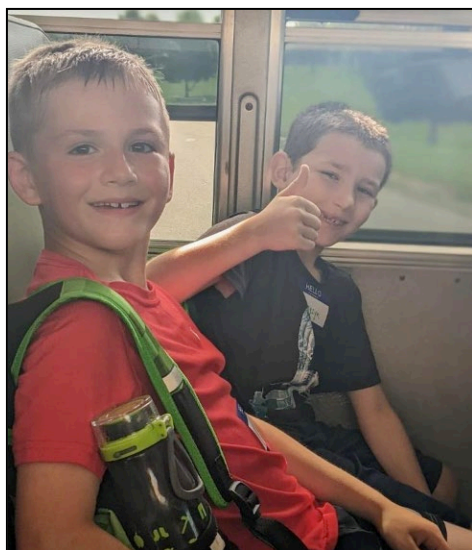


that six Lodi High School students from the class were able to leverage this program to not only earn five college credits for Spanish V but an additional 11 retro college credits (That's 16 college credits per student!).

**Summer Professional Learning for Educators** - Many of our teachers and administrators have also been busy this summer participating in professional development opportunities to refine teaching and learning practices. For example, this summer, the Middle School math department will dig deeper into a new math curriculum pilot for the 2022/2023 school year. Teacher leaders at the Elementary School and OSC will participate in a Phonics/Word Study training. In addition, multiple departments will meet to further align their curriculum to our Board adopted standards and make necessary updates. Ongoing training and alignment allow us to provide a world-class education to our students.

### **Innovative Community Connection - Community Connection Classroom Partnerships**

**Explore Our Community** - A key component of the School District of Lodi Strategic Plan is focused on developing community connections. During the 2021/2022 school year, over 30 School District of Lodi educators started to develop opportunities for classrooms to connect with various business and service organizations in our community and region. We were incredibly excited to see this focus carry over into Summer School, where educators were able to facilitate a class called "Explore Our Community!" Below are a few pictures of students visiting various businesses and locations in our region.





## Student Services

Adria Schroeder, Student Services ♦592-3851 ♦[schroad@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:schroad@lodischoolswi.org)

### Nurturing the Whole Student

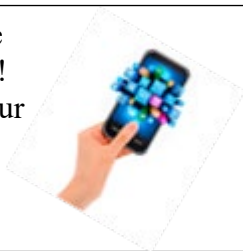
Pillar Two of the Strategic Plan is entitled “Nurturing the Whole Student.” The Vision Element Study Team, which included over 100 community members, defined Nurturing the Whole Student as: “creating a sense of belonging by growing empathy and compassion, inspiring the emotional and physical wellbeing of each student.” The School District of Lodi has identified Morning Meeting and Advisory as high impact strategies to make positive changes in our school community to nurture the whole student.

Morning Meeting is a strategy implemented at the Primary and Elementary School level. The purpose of Morning Meeting is to begin each day as a classroom community of caring and respectful learners who feel they belong to their classroom and school. There are four parts to the Morning Meeting: greeting, share, activity, and message. Students **greet** each other by name often including handshaking, singing, and/or movement. Students **share** their thoughts, feelings, and ideas in a positive way. Next, the whole class engages in a short, inclusive **activity** which reinforces learning and builds class cohesion through active participation. The final component is the message. Students discuss a daily **message** which is posted by their teacher. This message is read by teachers and students and the teacher engages the students in discussion based on the content. The message typically includes information about the daily schedule and reinforces academic skills in a meaningful and interactive way.

Advisory is a similar strategy implemented at the Middle and High School level. The purpose of Advisory is to establish trusting relationships (student-to-student and student-to-adult), teach the skills necessary for students to build positive relationships so they can enjoy responsible independence, make school meaningful and enjoyable, increase involvement and belonging in the classroom and school community, and prepare students to learn. There are four parts to Advisory: daily news, greeting, sharing, and activity. Students encounter the **daily news** to start an Advisory, which is posted by their teacher. Students read the message and follow a direction, complete a task, and/or start thinking about a topic provided in the daily news. The **greeting** provides opportunities to learn and practice formal, friendly, and fun formats for social interactions. Sharing is a time for community members to share about themselves. The purpose of **sharing** is to build relationships and connections among students and to develop skills of conversation, inquiry, and speaking within a group. Students engage in a short **activity** that provides opportunities to practice cooperation, responsibility, and self-control.

Certified staff received training on Morning Meeting (4k-5 educators) and Advisory (6-12 educators) during the 2021-2022 school year and utilize the following resources in their work: [The Morning Meeting Book](#) by Roxann Kriete & Carol Davis and [The Advisory Book](#) by Linda Crawford. If you would like more information about Pillar Two of the Strategic Plan, Morning Meeting, or Advisor, please contact: Adria Schroeder at [schroad@lodischoolswi.org](mailto:schroad@lodischoolswi.org).

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*School District of Lodi WI*







*Joe Jelinek – Principal*  
592-3853 ext. 4402

# High School Highlights



*Jason Marshall- Associate Principal*  
592-3853 ext. 4403

If you looked for me the summer I was sixteen, you would find me at one of the parks in my hometown of Monroe, Wisconsin. That summer, I got up before 7am to empty trash cans, mow grass, and clean bathrooms. I spent my afternoons at the ballfields with my friend Joe preparing them for the evening Youth Baseball, Home Talent, and Summer League softball games. The two of us would drag a field, meticulously chalk the lines, and rake the infield to perfection. Then we'd start all over again on the next diamond. It was hard work and a responsibility that we took extremely seriously. We challenged ourselves to leave not even a single footprint in the dirt.

In addition to working for the parks, I had other jobs in my hometown over the years. I worked as a paperboy, a farmhand, a cleaner at a shop, a youth baseball coach, and a clerk at a convenience store. None of these jobs led to a specific occupation, but they gave me skills that I would use in the future. When I graduated from high school, I began college as a Radio and TV Communication major. I didn't plan to go into teaching as a profession. But, like most people, my path to a career was not a straight line.

Today, after a few more twists and turns in a long career path that eventually led me to Lodi High School, I find myself reflecting on what brought me here because it is my responsibility to make sure all of my students are ready for careers of their own. To be truly prepared, high school students need opportunities to explore their career options, make connections with local employers, and improve their interpersonal skills.

Career readiness is directly connected to our district's Strategic Plan. One of the five pillars of the plan is to create opportunities for engagement with *all* our stakeholders. We want community members, beyond just students' families, to be involved with our schools. In our small town, the schools tend to be the center of community activities. The high school musical, Friday night football games, and the homecoming parade are just a few examples of traditions that bring the community together. We are working on expanding the list. With this in mind, three new events took place during the 2021-22 school year.

First, the high school held its first annual Job Fair this May. Every student had an opportunity to connect with representatives from almost 30 area businesses looking for summer and seasonal employees. Students had time to ask questions and even apply for summer jobs. It was great to see them practicing the communication skills they will need for future careers. Listed below are businesses that participated this year.



- \*Piggly Wiggly
- \*Smokey Hollow Campground
- \*Youth Apprenticeship - CESA 5
- \*Mueller Sport Medicine
- \*Gold Standard Telecom
- \*Crystal Lake Campground
- \*Wisconsin National Guard

- \*Treinen Farm
- \*Lodi Chamber of Commerce
- \*Brian Schmidt Enterprises
- \*Ecco Salons
- \*Subway
- \*Culvers in Waunakee
- \*Capitol Mechanical Commercial HVAC Company

- \*Graham's Auto and Truck Clinic
- \*American Family Insurance
- \*Strander Roofing
- \*D&K Services
- \*Furger Family Farm LLC
- \*Buttercream Bakery

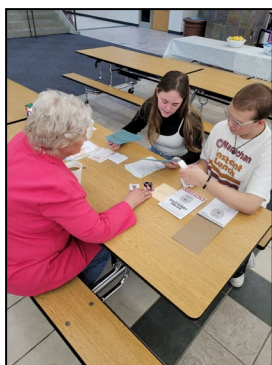
- \*Fitz's on the Lake
- \*CREW
- \*Lodi EMS
- \*BrightStar Care
- \*Manke Enterprises
- \*PJ's Pizza
- \*Luckys



Another event that strengthened bonds between students and community members took place in the Healthy Lifestyles class, led by Ms. Michelle Puls. Students collaborated with the preschoolers in the CREW Little Explorers class. They spent time playing games and making crafts, such as the friendship trees pictured below.



Also, Healthy Lifestyles students made connections with senior citizens in our community through their Pen Pals initiative. Near the end of the year, the students met their pen pals in person to play games and share stories with each other. Both of these fun activities created lasting memories.



The third event that strengthened our community connections happened in numerous high school classrooms throughout the second semester. Teachers invited business owners to share their stories with students. Entrepreneurs and experts in various fields described their personal career paths. They explained what it takes to run a roofing company, to work as a river restoration expert, and to operate a bakery. Overall, 18 businesses or individuals made connections with our students.



\*Luckys on the Lake  
\*Portage Daily Register  
\*MSA Engineering  
\*InterFluve  
\*Wisconsin National Guard

\*Peter Tonn  
\*Windsor Breads  
\*Kingfisher Yoga  
\*Reach Out Lodi

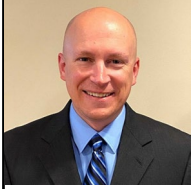
\*Strander Roofing  
\*Lodi Woman's Club Library  
\*Breezeway Bubbles Scuba  
\*Buttercream Bakery

\*ETC  
\*Lodi Sausage Company  
\*Adam Steinberg  
\*Madison College

The summer I was sixteen, mowing grass and preparing baseball diamonds, I probably saw my work as a means to earn gas money and save up for college. But viewing those jobs from the perspective of a principal, I realize that the experience also taught me responsibility, time management, and integrity. It made me feel like I mattered to my hometown. And we want the same for Lodi High School students. Whether they are stocking shelves, serving tables or scooping ice cream, they are strengthening their connection to their community and making memories.







*Derek Pertzborn – Principal*  
592-3854 ext. 3202

## *Middle School Maneuvers*

*Peter Franklin, Dean of Students*  
592-3854 ext. 3203



Summer time is a time for rejuvenation and relaxation for middle school students. It is also a time when students have more time to practice their social and relationship skills with their peers. Although students practice those skills during the school year, they also need time to practice these skills in unstructured environments...with some coaching on our ends of course. When you see middle school students fishing in Spring Creek, students are learning how to interact with each other and hopefully celebrate a nice catch. When you see middle school students walking down the sidewalk, they are practicing how to have a conversation or how to support a friend. All of these skills are vital for the development of all students and we need to make sure that kids have opportunities for these types of experiences with their peers or role models.

Fortunately, we have a community that offers so many summer opportunities to get students together as well. We have amazing programs such as summer school, athletics, CREW, and others that provide opportunities for the students of our community to develop as people. The relationships students build during these opportunities help students to feel connected, valued, and represented. Thank you to all of our community members that volunteer their time to help our students continue their growth in their social and emotional skills.

Lodi Middle School also provides students with so many academic and social opportunities for our students. Throughout the year our staff did an amazing job providing opportunities for students to work together, connect with our community, and opportunities for experiences outside of our school with field trips. All of these opportunities help to develop the children in more than academics. It helps them to learn to build relationships, feel valued, and recognize that there is a life outside of our walls. Having said that, there are so many amazing things happening inside these walls! Check out some opportunities that our staff provided this year below.



### **6th Grade Science - Newton's 3rd Law**

Students in 6th grade science class worked on physics by studying Newton's 3rd Law, describing action and reaction forces, and explaining why action and reaction forces are not balanced. Students practiced reading procedural steps, built a catapult, and then used the catapult to demonstrate and observe how the action of the catapult launch impacts the catapult's reaction.

Thanks to Michelle Howe, 6th grade science teacher, for providing these pictures and this opportunity for our students.



### **Arbor Day Celebration - 6th Grade**



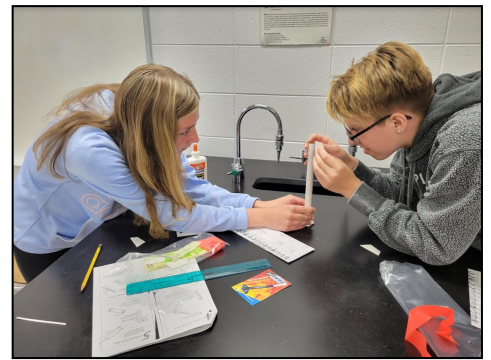
On Friday April 29 Lodi Middle School 6th graders celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Arbor day and kicked off Lodi's 150th birthday celebration. Students learned about the history of Lodi and Arbor Day and were greeted by Mayor Ann Groves-Lloyd and a City of Lodi Alderperson. Students ended the presentation with a tree planting ceremony in front of the middle school. Thanks to 6th grade science teacher Michelle Howe for organizing this connection to our community.





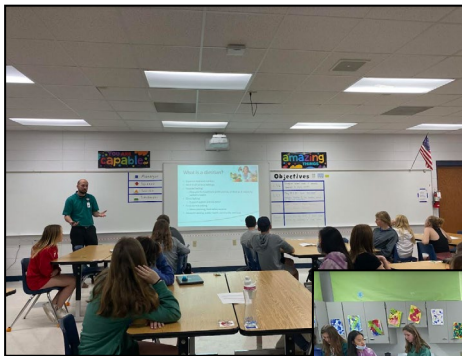


**7th Grade - Rocket Science**  
 7th grade students in the midst of building their model rockets. Students choose the height as well as the number and position of the fins with a goal of building a rocket that flies the highest. Thanks to 7th grade science teacher Sara Hook for providing this opportunity for our students.

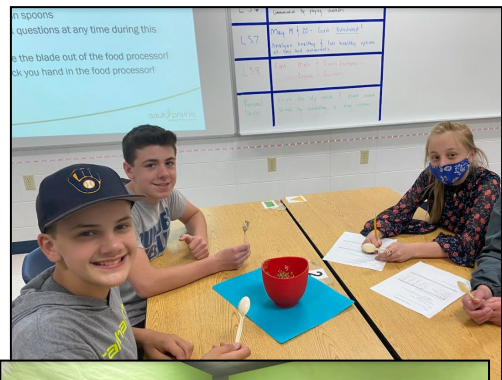


### **7th Grade - Life Skills**

Students in 7th Grade Life Skills got the opportunity to create nutritionally balanced “energy bites” with Isaac Hoffmaster, a dietitian from Sauk Prairie Hospital. Students loved hearing about Isaac’s expertise, trying yummy food, and applying their nutrition knowledge!



about Isaac’s expertise, trying yummy food, and applying their nutrition knowledge!



### **8th Grade - Community Connections**

Stacy Bruner, co-owner of Bruner Realty and Management, visited our Lodi Middle School 8th-grade students. He spoke about his small business and the different hats he wears as a co-owner. He also shared the different types of careers and jobs the realty and property management field offers employees. He did a great job engaging the students with trivia, quizzes, and a fun, quick version of Shark Tank. A big thanks Mrs. Patricia Heinzmann (8th-grade teacher) for helping to establish this business connection classroom partnership.



### **8th Grade - Career Fair at Madison College**

On May 3rd the 8th grade class had the opportunity to attend a Career and College Fair at Madison College. They visited a variety of program tables (machine tool, nursing, childcare, biotech) and toured the Truax Building. A highlight of the trip for many 8th graders was learning that they could begin taking college courses during their



junior year of high school. In addition, on our tour when we went to the "Machine Lab" area we got several tours of different sections. Two 8th grade parents who work at Madison College (Theresa Valencia and Benjamin Newcomb) were especially welcoming and generous with the tours they gave our students.



### **Yahara Writers Conference**

Lodi Middle School students attended the Yahara Writers Conference at Union South on the UW Campus last week. The conference included a keynote lecture, a writing workshop, and a formal awards ceremony. To earn recognition at the conference and represent Lodi, students placed in the top ten in the Yahara River art and writing contest categories of short story, cartoon, poetry in English, and poetry in Spanish. Their work was chosen among over 1,000 entries from students across Dane County. Congratulations to Lodi Middle School students Jade Dulmes, Adin Trepanier, Hailey Bell, and Fernanda Oyes! Thanks to LMC Director Paula Tonn and Instructional Coach Jenna Cramer for providing our students with this opportunity.



### **Lodi Middle School Retirement!**

Congratulations to Kim Rendler as she retires from Lodi Middle School. Thank you for your 23 years of dedication to all of our students and good luck in your new adventures!





# Elementary/OSC Excerpts

By Michael Pisani, Elementary/OSC School Principal ♦592-3842 ext. 2102 ♦Grades 3-5

## Lots to Celebrate This Year

There was a lot to celebrate this year. It was great to have a year where we got to roll the COVID dial back to more typical experiences and have kids back in school for a full year. The information below will highlight some of these celebrations since the last edition of Community Link.

## Strategic Plan

This year marked the beginning of our community developed Lodi Strategic Plan which will guide the work of the district at all levels for the next several years. At LES and OSC we focused on Preparing for the Future and Nurturing the Whole Child. We measured the impact our collective efforts had on student growth using our Balanced Scorecard system. In year one we got great information on strengths we have and where we can grow. You can find specific details of our efforts in literacy (Preparing For The Future) and creating a sense of belonging (Nurturing The Whole Child) on the district website under the About Us tab> Lodi Strategic Plan.

## Field Day

This spring brought the return of Field Day for LES and OSC. On Friday, May 27, all kids had the opportunity to rotate through fun community building competitions and events, kids had a water break due to the heat that day as well.





### Lodi Senior Graduation Walk

In what has become a great tradition in Lodi, the morning of May 27, LHS Seniors visited LES/OSC and walked through the halls celebrating their graduation with current LES/OSC students and staff. Students had many sweet reunions with former teachers.



### OSC 5th Grade Graduation

OSC started a new tradition last year and had their 5th Grade Graduation at Habermann Park. Below you will see pictures from this fun event that was attended by families on Tuesday, May 31.



### LES 5th Grade Graduation

LES started a new tradition last year and had 5th Grade Graduation at the LHS Stadium. This celebration featured student speakers and kids receiving their diploma the evening of Tuesday, May 31. Other



than a brief intermission for a sudden rainstorm, we had a great time.

### Last Day of School

Friday, June 3rd, was our last day of school for the 2021-2022 school year. The pictures show staff waving to the kids in buses as they leave school for the last time this year and Mrs. Lang doing the morning announcements on her final day with kids as she gets ready to ride off into retirement.







## Primary Pride

*By Amy Fassbender, Primary School Principal ♦592-3855 ext. 1002 ♦Grades EC/K4-2*

As we look ahead to the 2022-2023 school year, we want to share about several end-of-year celebrations! We had our first Stride with Pride Fundraising event in May where students in 4K hiked a path by the cornfield behind the school and students in grades K-2 went to the Ice Age Trail behind the High School. Students were able to accept pledges and donations for the hike. The funds that were raised will be used to purchase items for Heritage Park in the fall of 2022.

On this same day, we had an all school recess where students were able to engage in activities with peers in grades K-2. Students enjoyed playing in the water, throwing bean bags for corn holes, walking through obstacle courses, learning how to play gaga ball, etc.

The students also participated in the annual spring concert where they sang at the High School PAC for families and community members. Mrs. Weber planned and taught the songs for this special concert.





At the end of the school year we were sad to say goodbye to Sandy Osterman who is retiring after 30 years in education, 19 in Lodi. When asked about what is her favorite memory of teaching, she said, "I loved it all!" She is going to miss the kids the most and the hugs from the students. Recently she has received numerous letters from seniors sharing how she made a difference in their life...this is why she has done this for all these years. We wish her all the best as she moves on.



## Summer School



Things are busy at the Primary School and High School with our Lodi Summer School Program. The first session ran from June 13 through June 30. We had about 650 students participating in a variety of enrichment as well as remedial classes. Some of the classes include the following: Reading Paloza, Math Mania, Wrestling, Cooking, MineCraft, Disney Mania, Science Fun, Quilting, Fishing, Golf, Soccer, Tennis, Swimming, Theater, Lego Mania, etc. New this year was a class called "Exploring the Community." Mrs. Sarah Gleiss organized field trips to local businesses in Lodi. If you are interested in her joining you next year, please feel free to reach out.

In order to run our program, we have about 65 staff members teaching and supporting students in the classrooms. We appreciate all of the returning staff coming back this year and welcome many new to our team. The majority of the classes are located at the High School and the surrounding grounds. But we also had students going into 4k and kindergarten at the Primary School to help with the transition into that building in the fall. Session 2 of will start July 11 and run through July 28.

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