

Behind the Scenes at Lakeview Public Schools

Lakeview continues to be a leader and an innovator through a variety of ways with instructional program improvements and high expectation as our number one priority.

The District continues to “**raise the bar**” on achievement and efficiency; our community should be proud as Lakeview’s students are held accountable to high standards.

Financial Stability

The financial stability of Lakeview continues to be a unique story around our community. Prudent planning behind the scenes and a lean administrative structure have lead to recent Budgets with instruction at the top. **New technology, new textbooks and new offerings** in instruction provide students cutting edge options. We have committed nearly \$300,000 for each of the past several years to these priorities and will continue the same for 2010-11 and 2011-12. Even in light of the State Budget trouble and reduced revenue, Lakeview’s team projects **no program cuts** for 2011-12. In fact, a February report from Standard & Poors upgraded Lakeview’s Credit Rating to “A+” because of our sound financial practices and balanced approach to budgeting.

Instructional Innovation

The District has initiated several new instructional systems and offerings demonstrating our commitment to move forward even during difficult financial



times.

First, **NWEA, a K-11 assessment system**, was implemented in January 2011. NWEA provides staff with real-time instructional data on individual students, allowing them to focus individual help and give parents a tool for monitoring progress. Students work on-line and results are tabulated electronically overnight with reports becoming available immediately. This

system will provide the District with the real-time accountability data we need to make program adjustments and provide students tutoring and other supports in an objective way. It will also help us determine which students should be placed into our new honors and Advanced Placement offerings at the middle school and high school levels.

Second, development of our **Response to Intervention (RtI) framework** continues. Most of the focus last year surrounded English/Language Arts. Several structural

“I appreciate the hard work, flexibility, and commitment of our staff to create the best set of options for each child and family,” states Superintendent Karl Paulson.

changes were implemented as a result of information we gathered, particularly at the elementary level with “block time” for English/Language Arts at K-2 and 3-5 being set up for Daily 5 and Walk to Read strategies. Our speech pathologists, special education teachers, and other support staff are doing a lot of work “in classrooms” instead of removing students from class for help. Ultimately, all students benefit from changes to content delivery as a result.

Third, high school students will have the opportunity to take **Wayne State University courses on-site**, during the school day, at Lakeview. Our unique relationship with WSU will provide any high school student who qualifies the option of earning college credits prior to

graduation (with most of the cost paid by Lakeview).

Policy Changes

The District has initiated several new policy changes for the 2010/11 school year and beyond. First, secondary students can no longer fail a class and just get “rescheduled” over and over at Lakeview. The District is setting a high standard with **allowing only one failure** to be rescheduled in a student’s high school career. For a student to graduate and stay on track in this model, they will be required to take a credit recovery course at their expense if they fail more than one class. This is unprecedented in public secondary schools. Administration is already seeing improvement in student achievement as a result. Holding all students to higher standards can be done when you provide real-time help along the way in the form of after school assistance that is free.

Overall

Lastly, the Board, administration, and staff in Lakeview work together on behalf of all students and families. We know the progress we are demonstrating is the right direction for Lakeview, but we also look for outside validation. Lakeview was the first District in Macomb County to earn the prestigious “District Accreditation” award from the North Central Association. This outside validation of our instructional program is similar to the excellent rating of our financial status by Standard & Poors noted above. For more information, please visit our website at www.lakeview.misd.net or call at (586) 445-4000, ext. 2501.

Lakeview’s Social & Emotional (SOEMO) Club is comprised of high school students, staff, and community members who participate in school wide activities throughout the year. They were instrumental in the recent success of Stomp Out Bullying Week at Lakeview High School which culminated in a student vs staff dodge ball game. SOEMO is actively planning next year’s Stomp Out Bullying activities which will include all grade levels - elementary through high school.

