



Gator Chronicle

Vol. 18

September 2023

Kelli Oertling, Principal

Sandra McCullough & Holly Thompson, Assistant Principals

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Principal's Message:

Our school year is off to a gold medal start! In addition to providing engaging lessons for our students, our focus at the beginning of the year is on routines and procedures. Please assist us in reminding our students of Lakewood Elementary's expectations for student success: be responsible, be respectful, and be safe.

We will be hosting our Fall Parent Night on Tuesday, September 26 at 6:00 pm, and pizza will be served in the cafeteria beginning at 5:30 pm. We will be sharing skills your child is learning in class. Students will receive a dress down pass if their parent(s) attend, and I hope you are able to participate in this valuable opportunity.

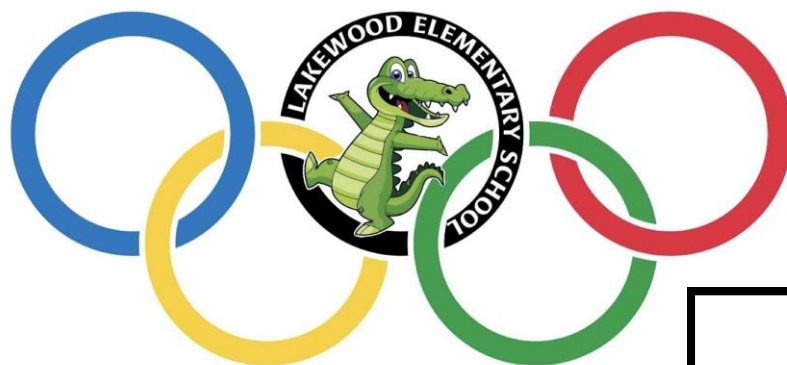
Our students took time in August to develop their hopes and dreams for the school year. Please ask your child about their hopes and dreams; and throughout the year, take time to follow-up to see if your child is on his or her way to meeting his or her goals.

We appreciate your continued support and commitment to helping our students succeed. I look forward to working with you this year to ensure success and nothing less for all.

#FasterHigherStrongerTogether

Kelli Oertling,
LWE Principal

Success Has No Finish Line



Go For Your Gold

Don't forget to
follow us on Twitter
[@Lakewood_Gators](https://twitter.com/Lakewood_Gators)

Parent Teacher Organization

PTO is exploring ways to achieve more at Lakewood Elementary!

LWE PTO is excited to start this year with all of our students, faculty, parents, grandparents and guardians. Your child's educational needs are our top priority. Everything we do is funded by fundraising such as spirit shirt sales, donations, memberships, Box Tops, World's Finest Chocolate sales, and Spring Fling. We understand that everyone's schedule is different, so all participation in PTO is appreciated.

Becoming a PTO member is an easy way to help support our school. We currently have over 200 PTO members and will be accepting membership donations throughout the school year. However, our PTO Membership Drive ends September 29. All members who have signed up by then will enter a raffle and have a chance to win a prize. Just send your name and child's name with \$5 cash or check (made out to LWE PTO) to school.

PTO will be accepting uniform orders all year long and filling those with what we have in stock. If a size that is ordered is out of stock, we will reorder occasionally. The online store will be reopened soon. Look for that information on social media.

One of our largest fundraisers, World's Finest Chocolate, will be October 2-20! Additional information will be available as we get closer to the fundraiser. Don't forget to scan your receipts so LWE can earn money from Box Tops. You can download the Box Top app on your phone.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make this year successful for all LWE students, faculty and staff!

LWE PTO

School Bus Spotlight

This month we are highlighting Bus and Bus and the students who are **going for gold** this year by following bus expectations and showing good character.



Bus 47 - Driver- Kathrine Lagrone
Students- Gavin McKee
and Natalia Rice



Bus 435- Driver- Jules Caufield
Students- William Lynch
and Aiden Figueredo

“Quality Learning for All Students”

eBooks Available to Use at Home

The Lakewood Library has a collection of over 1000 eBooks that students and families can use any time from home and the collection is still growing!

Students can log in with their Google accounts through their Library Google Classrooms or by going to stcharles.mackinvia.com.

There is a MackinVia app available to install on cell phones and tablets as well. If you want to log in as a guest to view the books available, you can go to www.mackinvia.com and locate our school by typing in Lakewood Elementary, Luling.

For guest username and password
Contact kguinnane@stcharles.k12.la.us

Some Follett eBooks are also accessible through MackinVia, but may require an additional login. Same username and password.



Book Fair Time!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to the Lakewood Library **September 25-29**. Students will be attending the Book Fair with their classes. Parents, grandparents, and other community members are also welcome to shop at the Lakewood Book Fair after school on Tues., Sept 26.

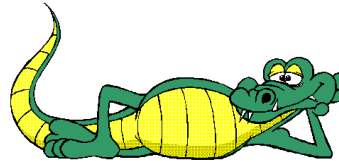


The Book Fair will be open from 7:40 am -2:30 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. **The Book Fair will remain open after school Tuesday, September 26, through Parent Night.** On Friday, Sept. 29, the Book Fair will close at 1:35 pm.

You can also support our school by shopping the book fair online and sharing the link with friends and family. There is free shipping available with a purchase of \$25 or more. Shop online here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/lakewood>

Lakewood's Mission

The mission of Lakewood Elementary School is to ensure success and nothing less for all.



Lakewood's Vision

Lakewood Elementary School empowers all students to develop skills necessary to grow academically, socially, and emotionally in order to achieve success in our constantly changing world.

Lakewood's Beliefs

We believe ...

- all students can learn, achieve, and succeed.
- in setting high expectations for all.
- in creating an environment that is safe and inviting.
- in providing an inclusive climate where all experience diversity, empathy, belonging, and respect.
- in promoting a culture of dignity where all are valued as individuals with unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.
- our school, community, and families are collaborative partners in the education of our students.

Lakewood's Daily Expectations

1. Be Responsible
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Safe

Uniform/Sweatshirt Donations

If you have any gently used uniforms that your child outgrew and you are no longer using, please consider donating them to our school. As the weather gets colder, our need for LWE sweatshirts or plain maroon sweatshirts will especially increase.

“Quality Learning for All Students”

Migrant Education Services Available!

Any child, ages 3 through 21, who moves with parents or guardians to seek or obtain temporary or seasonal employment in agriculture or fishing-related activities is eligible for the Migrant Education Program. Families qualify if they have moved to work in traditional crops such as: vegetables, dairy, poultry, livestock, fishing and shrimping, and/or timber.

Migrant Education provides student advocacy within the school district's educational program as well as supplemental educational and supportive services.

If you believe that your child might qualify for this program and are interested please call the school secretary or stop by the office to complete the Migrant Survey.

St. Charles Parish Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability.

¡Servicios disponibles para la Educación de Migrantes!

Cualquier niño entre las edades de 3 a 21 años, cuyos padres o representantes legales buscan obtener un empleo temporal o de estación en agricultura o en actividades relacionadas con la pesca, es elegible para el Programa de Educación del Migrante.

Las familias califican si se han movido al área para trabajar en las cosechas tradicionales como las siguientes: vegetales, lecherías, aves de corral, ganado, pesca, camarones y madera.

La Educación del Migrante provee ayuda dentro del programa educacional del distrito, como también servicios educacionales suplementarios y servicios de apoyo.

Si usted cree que su hijo/a puede calificar para este programa y usted está interesado o, por favor llame a la secretaria de la escuela o visite la oficina para completar la Encuesta del Migrante.

Las Escuelas Públicas de la Parroquia de St. Charles no discriminan por raza, color de piel, nacionalidad, orientación sexual y/o discapacidad

Please remind students to wear tennis shoes on Physical Education days.



Band Teambuilding



Lillian Dufrene, Ryder Albarado, Riley Risinger, and Mariela Monti (above) and Ella Shepherd, Sophia Eaglin, Evan Petit and Jace King (below) worked together to build toothpick and marshmallow towers in band class. In band, students are learning what it means to work together and be "All In."



Lakewood Listens

Scan the Q.R. code to access the Lakewood Listens section of our newsletter to give Lakewood your suggestions, concerns, and comments.



As required by law, information regarding Parental Access to Instructional Materials and the Louisiana Parents' Bill of Rights can be found at www.stcharles.k12.la.us under the FOR COMMUNITY-Legislative compliance page.

"Quality Learning for All Students"

Chromebook Care

1. Keep your Chromebook on a flat surface like a table or a desk. (Don't leave it on the floor where someone could step on it.)
2. Don't pile things on top of your Chromebook.
3. Make sure there isn't anything on the keyboard when you close your Chromebook.
4. Keep food and drinks away from your Chromebook and make sure your hands are clean. (Crumbs and liquids are very bad for your Chromebook and can cause it to stop working properly.)
5. Be careful how you carry your Chromebook. Make sure your Chromebook is closed, always use two hands, and never carry your Chromebook by the screen.
6. Keep it charged. Plug it in when you are not using it so that it will be charged and ready when you need it.
7. Tell your teacher right away if it breaks. Don't try to fix it yourself.
8. Remember to take care of yourself online too. Stay on approved websites, keep your password private, and log off when you're done. Remember anything that happens under your account is your responsibility.

To watch a video on Chromebook care, click on the image below.



Safety First

Your child's safety is our top priority at Lakewood Elementary. We would like to remind all parents and guardians that a school employee with a marked vest will open the car door to escort your child out the vehicle once it comes to a complete stop.

Here are a few reminders to make sure the car rider process continues to be efficient:



- Gate opens at 7:25 am to drop off students
- Gate closes at 7:50 am (if you arrive after 7:50 am, you must sign your child in at the Front Office)
- Remind your child to put their ID on before they exit the car

AHERA MANAGEMENT PLAN NOTICE

Notice: In 1986 all asbestos materials were identified in all school buildings. A management plan was developed for each school as per the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). The management plan is located in a binder in the main office of each school. The binders are available for review upon request.

Since the plan was developed, most of the asbestos has been removed. In a few buildings, some floor tile still remains that contains asbestos. All of the schools meet the health requirements that pertain to the regulation. If you have any questions concerning this topic, please contact Kevin Barney, Director of Physical Plant Maintenance at 985-331-3600 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

“Quality Learning for All Students”

THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELLNESS (S.E.W) SPOTLIGHT

LWE Social Emotional Wellness (SEW) Team

is made up of administrators, our two school counselors, Ms. Pepper and Ms. Katie, and one mental health professional, Ms. Kristen. The SEW team works collaboratively with all student stakeholders to ensure success and nothing less for all students.

August in Review-

- All students were given tours of the “Reset Room” available on campus and received direct instructions from the SEW team on the available calming tools and protocols for using the space.

Upcoming SEW Info:

- Monthly “Take Care Tuesdays” and “Feel Good Fridays” will start in September, where morning meetings will focus specifically on social and emotional learning topics including: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making.
- The SEW team will be pushing into classes to lead SEL lessons to all students during morning meetings.
- Our **Social Emotional Student Survey** is scheduled for Friday, September 22
- **Red Ribbon Week** is October 23-October 27

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

WHAT TO DO

HEAT STROKE

- High body temperature (103°F or higher)
- Hot, red, dry, or damp skin
- Fast, strong pulse
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Losing consciousness (passing out)

- Call 911 right away-heat stroke is a medical emergency
- Move the person to a cooler place
- Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath
- Do not give the person anything to drink

HEAT EXHAUSTION

- Heavy sweating
- Cold, pale, and clammy skin
- Fast, weak pulse
- Nausea or vomiting
- Muscle cramps
- Tiredness or weakness
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Fainting (passing out)

- Move to a cool place
- Loosen your clothes
- Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath
- Sip water

Get medical help right away if:

- You are throwing up
- Your symptoms get worse
- Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour

HEAT CRAMPS

- Heavy sweating during intense exercise
- Muscle pain or spasms

- Stop physical activity and move to a cool place
- Drink water or a sports drink
- Wait for cramps to go away before you do any more physical activity

Get medical help right away if:

- Cramps last longer than 1 hour
- You're on a low-sodium diet
- You have heart problems

SUNBURN

- Painful, red, and warm skin
- Blisters on the skin

- Stay out of the sun until your sunburn heals
- Put cool cloths on sunburned areas or take a cool bath
- Put moisturizing lotion on sunburned areas
- Do not break blisters

HEAT RASH

- Red clusters of small blisters that look like pimples on the skin (usually on the neck, chest, groin, or in elbow creases)

- Stay in a cool, dry place
- Keep the rash dry
- Use powder (like baby powder) to soothe the rash



Meet Your S.E.W. Team

Ms. Sherrie Pepper
School Counselor

spepper@stcharles.k12.la.us



Ms. Katie Lebouef
School Counselor

klebouef@stcharles.k12.la.us



Ms. Kristen Centanni
Mental Health Professional

kcentanni@stcharles.k12.la.us



“Quality Learning for All Students”

Caught Reading!



Students in Mrs. Cato's class read their books after checking them out from the library for the first time this year. Above: Isabella Jacob and Cruz Verdin. Below: Ivrie Edwards



Multi-Step Math



Mrs. Vickers 5th grade math students work in cooperative groups to solve multi-step word problems.







September is Attendance Awareness Month

If students are at school every day from September 1- September 15, their names will be entered into a drawing for a bracelet for the Alligator Festival. We have several bracelets to give out. If they continue to have perfect attendance from September 15- September 30 they will also earn a dress down day.



"Quality Learning for All Students"

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 No School Labor Day Holiday	5	6	7	8 Early Dismissal 11:55 am	9
10	11	12 Fall Pictures	13 Progress Reports go Home	14	15 4-H & Cloverbuds Forms & Fees Due/ Running Club Interest Forms Due	16
17	18	19	20 Student of the Year Applications Due	21 Golden Gators Celebration 7:50 am 	22 HHS Spirit Day 	23 
24 	25	26 Book Fair Open After School/ LWE Fall Parent Night 6:00 pm	27	28	29	30
Scholastic Book Fair in LWE Library!						

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

October 2: WFC Fundraiser begins
October 3: Running Club Permission Forms, Physicals, and Fees Due
October 5, 12, 19, : Running Club 3:10 pm-4:10 pm
October 10: End 1st 9 weeks / 4-H & Cloverbuds 3-4 pm, Parish Honor Choir Rehearsal 6-8 pm @LPAC
October 11: 2nd 9 weeks begins
October 13: Early Dismissal 11:55 am
October 16-17: Fall Break- No School
October 20: WFC Fundraiser Ends
October 23: Report Cards go home
October 26: Golden Gators Celebration 8 am / Early Dismissal- 11:55 am / Parent Teacher Conferences 12:45- 5:45 pm
October 27: Early Dismissal- 11:55 am / Parent Teacher Conferences 12:45- 3:45 pm
October 31: Trunk-or-Treat 1-2 pm

Homework Assistance Offered Through State Library of Louisiana

The State Library of Louisiana offers FREE homework assistance services to parents and students at <http://www.homeworkla.org>.

Homework Louisiana offers free online tutoring and academic resources from Tutor.com for Louisiana residents from kindergarten students through adult learners. Get help in math, science, social studies or English from a live tutor. The one-to-one tutoring hours are now 2 pm to Midnight, 7 Days a Week! Students may now access this service from any internet-connected computer or mobile device during these hours.

Please make sure to label your child's jackets, hoodies, lunch kit, etc. This way, if they are left somewhere on campus, they can be returned to your child.



Lakewood Elementary School
501 East Heather Drive
Luling, LA 70070



Lakewood
Gator
Chronicle

#FasterHigherStrongerTogether