

Lakeland Joint School District No. 272

<http://www.sd272.k12.id.us>



NEWSLETTER



Volume 31 – Number 3 – January 2006

LEEP Pre-Kindergarten Reading Readiness Classes Planned

Lakeland pre-kindergarten children who will turn five years of age on or before the first day of September and who plan to enter kindergarten in the fall will be eligible to enroll in the Lakeland Early Education Program (LEEP).



The age-appropriate reading readiness skills learned in LEEP are designed to give pre-kindergarten children a head start on learning and will provide them an excellent opportunity to be successful kindergartners! LEEP will also include a home-school component which will provide children time to continue to learn at home with their parents!

Lakeland Elementary Schools are currently planning LEEP classes, which will begin on or about February 21st and run through May 25th. LEEP classes will be held after school, two days per week. A registration fee of \$50 will be charged for each participating child. Parents of economically disadvantaged students may apply for LEEP Scholarships by contacting the Lakeland Administration Office at 687-0431.

Parents can learn more specific information concerning LEEP classes (i.e. time and days of the week of-

fered, etc.) by contacting their neighborhood elementary school. Since LEEP classes will only serve eight to ten students, parents should plan to register their child long before the February 21st anticipated start date. **To register a child, parents need to again contact their elementary school.**

SCHEDULE FOR MID-TERM AND END-OF- QUARTER REPORT CARDS



Each quarter Lakeland Schools will issue mid-term grade reports and end-of-quarter report cards to inform students and parents about academic progress, work/study habits, citizenship and attendance. The schedule for issuance of mid-term and end-of-quarter grade reports is the same throughout the district:

Second Quarter Report Cards	February 3
Third Quarter Mid-Term Reports	March 3
Third Quarter Report Cards	April 14
Fourth Quarter Mid-Term Reports	May 12
Fourth Quarter Report Cards	June 16

Parents are encouraged to contact their school at anytime regarding the progress of their child!

School Calendar

January 26	1:30 p.m. student release for teacher curriculum activities End of 2 nd quarter
January 27	Teacher workday (No school)
February 20	Presidents' Day (No school)
March 25-	
April 2	Spring vacation
April 6	End of 3 rd quarter
April 7	Teacher workday (No school)
April 14	K – 8 parent / teacher conferences (No school for K - 8 students)
May 29	Memorial Day (No school)
June 8	End of 4 th quarter



(The Lakeland Board of Trustees meets on the second Monday of each month. The public is invited to attend!)

Parents Beware!!!!

Your child may be participating in a disturbing and potentially deadly trend known as the choking game, pass-out game, fainting game, tingling game, or “something” dreaming game. Children across the nation are playing this self-asphyxiation game to produce a kind of high they believe is safer than drugs or alcohol!!!!

They use bags, belts, ties, scarves, or even their own bare hands. Often they hyperventilate then press on their chest until they do not have any oxygen and then pass out. This trend actually results in reducing blood flow and oxygen to the brain, which basically can start an irreversible process of brain cells dying and can result in death!

A twelve year old Seattle girl was found this fall in her bedroom with her karate belt around her neck. A ten year old Island Park, Idaho boy and a thirteen year old Nampa girl were also found dead this year. All three deaths have been attributed to the choking game.

What can parents do? First, talk to your children about the dangers of this increasingly popular practice. Secondly, be aware of the warning signs: your child keeping a rope, plastic bag or something similar; bloodshot eyes; headaches; and, marks on the neck.

WINTER TESTING OF STUDENTS

This winter (January – February 15) a number of students throughout the Lakeland School District

will again take the Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT).

You may recall the ISAT is a computerized adaptive series of tests that were last administered to Lakeland students in October. The



ISAT is designed to measure your student’s general knowledge in state / district standards for reading, language usage, and mathematics.

The test data retrieved from this round of winter testing will be used by teachers to measure the amount of growth students have made from the start of school and to determine the standards areas needing attention before school concludes in the spring. This spring (April 10 – May 19), the ISAT will again be administered to all 2nd through 10th grade students. **Beginning with the graduating class of 2006, passing scores on the ISAT are required, along with other state and local graduation requirements!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



This month all kindergarten through third grade students will also take the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI). The IRI is designed to assess student progress in mastering the required skills for

becoming successful readers. This assessment will again be given April 15 - May 15.

If you have any questions regarding your student’s progress on state testing, please contact your school counselor!

EMERGENCY CLOSURE INFORMATION

Throughout the course of the year, classes or other activities may be cancelled due to poor weather conditions. Closure becomes necessary only in cases of heavy snow drifting, water on ice, or extreme sub-zero cold. Closures will be announced on the District website, local radio, and TV.

Update on New School Facilities Planning



With voter approval of the October 18th school bond election, early spring has been targeted for the opening of contractor bids for the Twin Lakes Elementary School, Lakeland High School heating/ventilation project and parking lot expansion, Garwood cafeteria expansion, and Spirit Lake Elementary office/entry foyer remodel. Construction on the new elementary school is slated to begin in Mid-March. Work on the other aforementioned facility improvement projects will begin around the middle of June, with construction to be finished by the time school resumes in the fall. The new elementary school will open in the Fall of 2007.

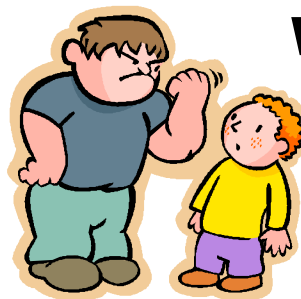
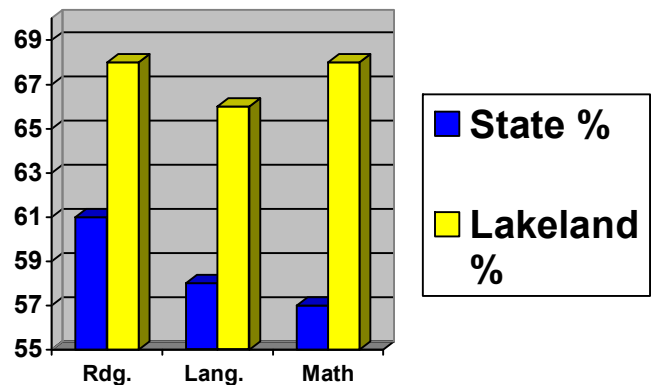
Bid openings for the Lakeland High School additions and gymnasium expansion and the elementary science room upgrades will take place in the Spring of 2007, with construction expected to be completed by the fall for everything except the high school gymnasium expansion, which is not expected to be completed until approximately early December of 2007.

Expansion of the district kitchen and moving the district technology facilities to Lakeland Junior High are also expected to be finalized by the start of school in the Fall of 2007.

Lakeland Students Excel on Fall ISAT's!!!!

Lakeland second through tenth grade students did very well on the Fall 2005 ISAT's, with most meeting or exceeding their individual academic growth targets, according to assessment data which was recently released by the Idaho State Board of Education!

The Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) has a fall component which measures how each individual student has grown academically in reading, language usage, and mathematics since the previous fall. Through normative studies conducted by Northwest Evaluation Association, creators of the ISAT, individual learner expected growth targets for fall-to-fall have been set as a measure of student performance. The accompanying chart compares percentages of Lakeland students who met or exceeded their individual fall ISAT growth targets with other students from across the entire State of Idaho. **In comparing the Fall 2005 percentages, Lakeland students shined over other Idaho students!**



What Should You Do If Your Child Is Being Bullied???

Victims of bullying often develop serious problems. They feel isolated and they have a hard time adjusting socially. Some can even develop serious anger management problems. Research shows children who are bullied often have academic problems, as well.

Bullying Article (Continued)

Talk with your child and ask questions! If she's being bullied:

- **Tell her she made** the right decision to tell you about the bullying. Encourage her to give you details.
- **Empathize** with her feelings. Assure her it's perfectly normal for her to feel sad, angry, or embarrassed.
- **Boost your child's** self-esteem by reminding her that bullies generally don't feel good about themselves. They are simply trying to be cool by being cruel.
- **Find out** if she's done anything to stop the bullying. Has she reported it to the teacher, principal, or counselor? If not, encourage her to do so!
- **Guide her in handling** the bullying situations. Tell her to not react, walk away, avoid or ignore the bully. A bully wants a reaction, and "come-backs" usually just give a bully more ammunition. It's better to smile, as if to say, "Good try, but you don't get to me."
- **Help her build** new relationships. Find activities for her – outside of school – where she can meet new friends. Invite new friends over after school.
- **If possible, volunteer** for school activities such as playground duty or fieldtrip chaperone.
- **Discuss** the bullying problem with your child's teacher, principal, or counselor.
- **Don't confront** the bully or the bully's family yourself!

Community Education Classes Planned

Throughout the winter and early spring, Lakeland Joint School District offers a number of community education courses. These classes meet one or two nights per week and are offered at various locations throughout the school district.

To register for any of the following classes, patrons may contact the District Office at 687-0431 between 8 a.m. and noon each day:

Step Aerobics

Tuesday and Thursday, February 7 – March 23
4:00 to 5:15 p.m.

Athol Elementary Gym

Fee: \$40

Microsoft Word

Tuesday, February 14 – March 14

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Lakeland Junior High School
Media Center

Fee: \$17



First Aid and CPR

Monday, February 27 and March 6
6 to 9 p.m.

Garwood Elementary Library

Fee: \$15 (with a certification option for an added fee)

Introduction to Microsoft Excel XP

Tuesday, April 4 - 25

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Lakeland Junior High Media Center

Fee: \$15

Warning about Posting Personal Information on the Internet!

Thanks to the Internet, your teen can travel the world with a click of a mouse. But the Internet can hold dangers for your child. They are found on websites with inappropriate or harmful content and in the chat rooms that many teens access to talk about various subjects.

Most people who participate in chat rooms are probably harmless, but some may not be! Sadly, many teens have been fooled – and some harmed – by adults in chat rooms. These adults, posing as teens, may win the trust of innocent teens on-line. The teens believe they are talking with their peers. They want to make friends, so they give out their address or other personal information.

In reality, they may have given this information to an adult who may be seeking to take advantage of a young person. Do not allow your teen to post photos of herself on-line. And, tell her to never give out personal information on-line, including: real name, age, address, phone number, name of school, or financial information.

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NEWSLETTER

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