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248-684-8069 Fax



1500 Bogie Lake Rd.
White Lake, MI 48383

248-684-8030 Office

Dear Lakewood Families,

On behalf of the staff at Lakewood Elementary, I would like to welcome you to the 2026-2027 school year! I am looking forward to another great year with our Lakewood families. As a staff, we are focused on making each year memorable and meaningful to all of our students in many ways. I encourage you to ask questions, seek clarity and be engaged with your team at Lakewood. We believe that our team is all inclusive and based upon creating a solid academic foundation for all students. The following represents a list of some important dates and information, some of which is subject to change.

FIRST DAY INFORMATION

School begins with a full day on August 31, 2026 for students in Grades 1st-5th and will run from 9:15am to 4:08pm.

The beginning of the year staggered schedule for *Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten* is as follows:

Monday, August 31st: Two half day sessions attended by parents/guardians and students.

Families of incoming JK/K students are asked to send only one parent/guardian for their first day of school

- ★ **Session A: Last Names A-L (parents and students) will attend 9:30am- 12pm**
- ★ **Session B: Last Names M-Z (parents and students) will attend 1:00pm-3:30pm**
- ★ **There is no transportation for JK/K students on this day to/from school.**

Tuesday, September 1st: Full day for Session A (students with last names A-L): 9:15am - 4:08pm.

- ★ Bus transportation is provided both ways for students.
- ★ Students whose last names begin with M-Z do not attend school.

Wednesday, September 2nd: Full day for Session B (students with last names M-Z): 9:15am - 4:08pm.

- ★ Bus transportation is provided both ways for students.
- ★ Students whose last names begin with A-L do not attend school.



Thursday, September 3rd: Full day for all JK/Kindergarten students: 9:15

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★ Bus transportation provided.

Friday, September 4th: No school, due to the Labor Day Holiday

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IMPORTANT DATES

- Welcome Back Pop-In: August 26th from 3:00-4:00 PM
- Curriculum Night- September 10th from 6:00-7:00 PM
- **Conferences- November 5th and 10th from 4:30-8:00 PM (Teachers will send out a Sign-Up Genius)**
- You can find the District school calendar [HERE](#)

BACK-TO-SCHOOL ONLINE PROCESS & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

The online back-to-school process will be live on August 1st in Skyward Family Access. The open lab dates this summer are **Thursday, August 6th from 5:30-8:00 PM in the Milford High School LGI and Wednesday, August 19th from 5:30-8:00 PM in the Lakeland High School LGI**. It is very important to make sure you review your emergency contacts. The emergency contacts should be any person that you give permission to pick up your student/s during the school day or in case of an emergency. We are not able to release a student unless we have the following: Valid Photo ID and name on ER list in Skyward. Log into your HVS [Family Access](#) account to complete the Back-To-School Process. Email family.access@hvs.org if you need any help.

DO NOT PHOTO

If you would like your child to be part of Lakewood memories (pictured in the yearbook, Squawk Talk, or the social media pages) *please make sure the "Do Not Photo-Local Use" is NOT checked.*

BUS ROUTES

It will be extremely helpful for your child to ride the bus on the first few days of school. This helps transportation firmly establish bus routes and gives them more accurate counts. In August, the Transportation Department will post your child's bus information in Skyward Family Access. This information will include bus route numbers along with the locations and times for pick-ups and drop offs. You can find the information on the Student Information Tab of your child's account. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact *Transportation at (248) 684-8200*.

MEDICATION

If your child requires medication (prescription OR over-the-counter), please click [HERE](#) to review the District's medication policy and procedures and complete the required forms. Students are NOT permitted to carry any over the counter or prescribed medication to or from school. For students with specific health needs, please contact our office to set up a meeting to discuss and/or set up an individualized Plan of Care for your child. These forms need to be completed each school year for any medication to be administered during the school day and can be found at the link above.

NOTE: The "Administering Medications to Student (s) Form" must be submitted along with the specific Plan of Care (ie: Allergy, Asthma, Diabetic, etc.). Each form must be signed by a parent/guardian and the Doctor.

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be late or absent, please call the 24-hour attendance line at (248) 684-8018 by 9:15am. If we do not hear from you, the Skylert system will notify you. We want to make sure all our students are safe and accounted for every day. The student must be signed-in by an adult when arriving late.

ARRIVAL:

Students will begin entering the building through the main entrance at 9:05 AM. From there, safeties will be holding up signs in the hallways, indicating where students should line-up until the first bell rings at 9:10 AM. Students should remain in their vehicles until school staff is present outside. Staff members will be on duty to keep it organized/safe.

DISMISSAL

Students are lined up in their classroom 2 ways: Bus Riders or Car Lane Riders.

- ❖ Bus Riders will line up in an assigned location in the building with an assigned staff member and safeties. From there, the staff member will walk students in a line to their assigned bus.
- ❖ Car Lane riders walk to the cafeteria and will wait there until their name is called to come to the car lane.
- ❖ **Walk-up pick-up is strongly discouraged, as we will not have school staff outside of the building supervising children. Staff will either be supervising the hallway, walking lines out to buses or supervising car rider pick-up in the cafeteria and/or car line. We want your children to be safe and supervised throughout the dismissal process.**



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CAR LANE PROCEDURE

- 9:05am - Earliest drop off time (Staff must be present for students to exit the vehicle)
- 9:15am - Latest drop off time. *An adult **must** sign-in late student/s at the front office vestibule past this time.

MORNING DROP OFF CAR LANE

- Drivers, DO NOT exit your vehicle.
- Children should quickly exit the vehicle on the passenger side only (without assistance).
- Pull as far forward to the end of the sidewalk as possible, so multiple cars can unload.
- Drop off lane is on the sidewalk curb only - please do not use the grass area for safety reasons.

AFTERNOON PICK UP CAR LANE

- Display the yellow name tag on the passenger side visor.
- Please keep pulling forward as the cars exit the lane. We will get your student to you.
- Drivers, DO NOT exit your vehicle in the drop off lane as it is unsafe and it will stop the flow of traffic.
- Students can only enter the vehicle from the passenger side for everyone's safety.
- Once your child is in your vehicle, please depart promptly. If they require your assistance to buckle up, please exit the car lane and stop on the side of the loop area so we may continue to load other students in a safe and timely fashion.

Please communicate these safety guidelines to all caregivers who will be using the lane.

Two yellow visor signs will be distributed to all new families.
Please keep these visor tags until your student moves onto middle school.

You will display this tag on your passenger side visor. If you need any more yellow signs, please contact the office and we will make you some.



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FOOD SERVICE

For the past several years, all students in Michigan have received free breakfast and lunch through the Michigan School Meals Program. While we hope this program will continue, its future is still uncertain, as the state's School Aid Budget has not yet been finalized.

As of now, students will continue to receive breakfast and lunch at school. However, if the state does not renew the program once the budget is complete, students will begin paying full price for meals unless their family qualifies for free or reduced-price meals based on household income.

What You Can Do Now:

To prepare for any changes, we strongly encourage all families to complete the Child Nutrition and Education Benefit Application—regardless of income.

Why This Application Matters — Beyond Meals:

Even if your student doesn't need free meals, completing the application can provide access to other important Educational benefits, including:

- Reduced registration fees for AP exams
- Lower fees for college applications
- Programs that provide food support, field trip support, school supplies or holiday support
- Free or reduced pay-to-participate activity fees
- Potential household support for cable and internet
- Title 1 funding to help support additional support, purchasing instructional materials, offering additional programs

Your application helps us support all students and maintain critical school resources.

The application can be found on [Family Access](#) as part of the Online Process or you can find it on our website on the [food services page](#).



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JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN/KINDERGARTEN SCREENER

Our dedicated junior kindergarten and kindergarten educators are eager to ensure that we kick off the school year on a positive note, setting the stage for your child's academic success. To facilitate this transition, we kindly request your participation in a brief fifteen-minute academic screening session on August 13th or August 19th at Lakewood Elementary. This screening will allow our teachers to gain valuable insights into your child's current literacy and math skills, enabling us to tailor our instruction to meet their individual needs from day one. Please take a moment to click on the provided link to sign up your child for a screening session that fits your family's schedule.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44AEA92AABFCC07-63427109-jkkindergarten#/>

Please Note: This is only for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten students that are NEW to Lakewood. If your child completed Junior Kindergarten in the 2024-2025 school year, they do not need to attend.

CLASS PLACEMENT

Students are placed in classrooms based on student learning and teaching styles. Efforts are made to maintain consistent class sizes, an appropriate balance of boys and girls, and a variety of student profiles. Lakewood teachers and staff members have put much time and thought into the placement decisions. Therefore, we expect that parents understand this process and subsequently do not call asking for changes in class placement. We hope that you will honor this request.

We are excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to working with you as a team to provide the best education possible for your child!

Sincerely,

Heather Peaden

Lakewood Elementary Principal