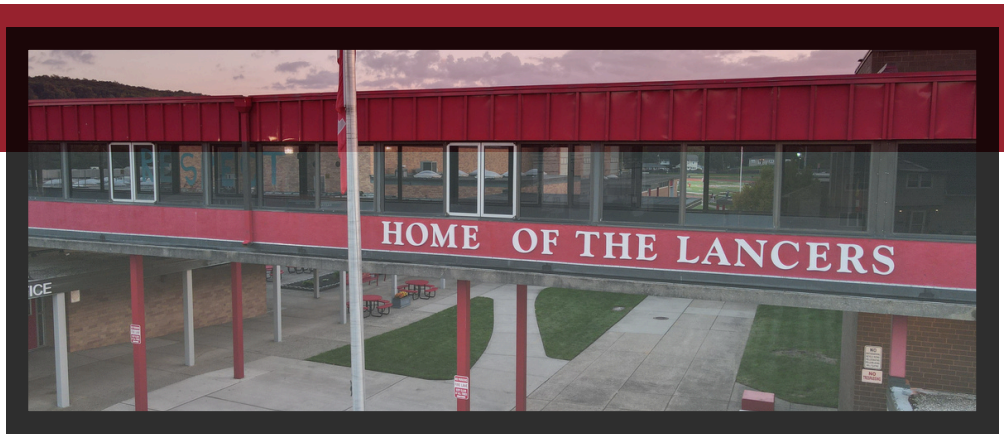
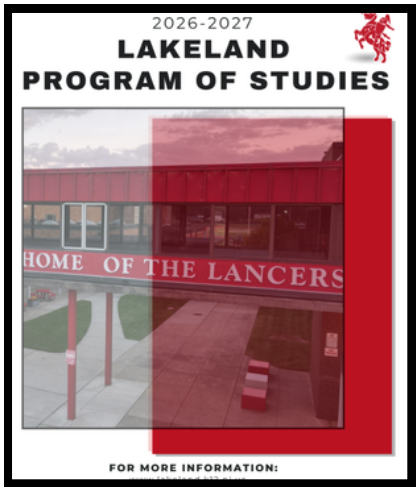
Lakeland Curriculum Connections



2026-2027 Curriculum on the Move

Welcome to our fall edition of Curriculum Connections! This year, we are focused on making sure the curriculum on paper matches the learning happening in our classrooms every day. A big part of that work is to complete a needs assessment for 2026-2027 and review every course's units, lessons, and assessments organized in one place. As each course is reviewed, we are confirming that it meets current New Jersey Student Learning Standards and reflects real, engaging classroom instruction.



This work launches a new five-year curriculum cycle, so every course will be reviewed and refreshed on a regular schedule. We are also updating our Program of Studies to give families a clearer guide to course options when scheduling season arrives. And our teachers are growing, too, through professional development focused on student engagement and keeping curriculum current. The Program of Studies for 2027-2028 will be finalized this winter.

New This Year: Lunch/Concert Chorus



Students with full schedules can now sing in Chorus! Lunch Chorus lets students join the Concert Chorus during their lunch block in place of a study hall. It's open to all students in grades 9–12, requires no audition, and earns 2.5 credits. Students learn music theory, sight-singing, and vocal technique, and they perform with the Concert Chorus at least three times a year. Updated course descriptions for Concert Chorus and Lunch Chorus will appear in the 2027–2028 Program of Studies.

Lakeland Curriculum Connections

2026-2027

What Should Every Lakeland Graduate Be Able to Do?

Beyond grades and credits, what skills should every Lancer carry with them on graduation day? That is the question behind our Essential District Skills, the core abilities woven into courses across every department.

This year, our curriculum team is taking a hard look at those skills and revising them as part of our broader Profile of a Graduate work. We are asking: Do these skills reflect what colleges, employers, and our community expect today? Are they clear enough that students know exactly what they are working toward?

Think communication, collaboration, critical thinking, problem-solving, and responsibility, the kinds of skills that matter in any career and in life.

We want your voice. Parents, alumni, and community members see what success looks like after high school. What skills do you think matter most?

Calling All Lancers: Alumni Spotlight

Some of the best teachers for our students are the people who sat in their seats not long ago. Our new Alumni Spotlight connects current students with Lakeland graduates who are building careers, earning degrees, and making a difference.

Alumni can get involved in three ways:

- Video features produced by students in our Tech Ed Video Program
- Podcast conversations about their path after Lakeland
- Guest speaking in classrooms and at school events

Features are shared on our school social media and our LinkedIn Alumni Page, so students can see the many roads that start right here.

Are you a Lakeland grad, or know one? We would love to feature you. Comment on our Alumni Spotlight post or email Jgeyer@lakeland.k12.nj.us to get started.

Once a Lancer, always a Lancer!

Lakeland Curriculum Connections

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Program Spotlight: UPAL Academies

UPAL is growing! Lakeland's UPAL program gives motivated students the chance to dive deep into a field they love through our specialized academies. This year, UPAL is growing in exciting ways. A new look. You may have already spotted UPAL's brand-new logo, a fresh identity for a program that keeps raising the bar just like our Lancers do each and every day!
UPAL students are some of our most curious and driven learners, and we are excited to give them even more room to grow.

Interested in UPAL? Check out the website to learn more about the academies and the application process by 11/13/2026.

Student Activities: A Busy Fall for Our Lancers

From Student Council and the National Honor Society to class councils and clubs, our students are leading, serving, and connecting across LRHS this fall, including opening each school day by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Our business students are busy, too! FBLA is running its Krispy Kreme fundraiser, and FBLA officers will attend the Fall Leadership Conference at Kean University. FBLA and DECA are also awaiting approval for their annual Fall Jets Business Day trip, so stay tuned!



Questions? Contact Jess Geyer, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction, at jgeyer@lakeland.k12.nj.us.

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Hitting the Slopes: Ski & Snowboard Club



Starting in January, the Ski & Snowboard Club heads out about twice a month on Saturdays to resorts across New York and Pennsylvania, where students build their skills, challenge themselves, and enjoy time outdoors with friends. Last year the club took its first-ever weekend trip, to Mount Snow in Vermont, and it was such a hit that we hope to return this winter and make it a club tradition. It's a great way for students to stay active, gain confidence, and make lasting memories as Lancers!



Spreading Cheer: Holiday Toy Drive

Lakeland Robotics Team 223 and the National Honor Society are teaming up for a Holiday Toy Drive benefiting St. Joe's Children's Hospital!

What to give: New, unwrapped, factory-sealed items such as Crayola crayons and coloring books, Lego sets, board games, puzzles, sketch pads, and books or e-readers.
Where: Drop donations off in Room 302.
Cash donations are welcome, too, and will be used to buy needed gifts in bulk.
Final drop-off is mid-December, so help us make spirits bright! Please share with family and friends.