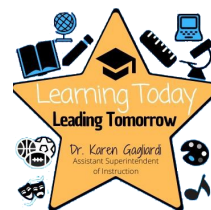




Lakeland's Latest on Curriculum and Instruction

April 2020 5th EDITION



A Note From Karen Gagliardi

This is our virtual edition of "Lakeland's Latest on Curriculum and Instruction". I truly hope that you are all doing as well as can be expected.

Let me start by acknowledging the work that you all have been doing, EXCEPTIONAL. From my standpoint I can see that Google Classrooms are robust, consistent, and provide our students with rich content, challenging work and assignments, and even a virtual field trip or two. Everyone connected to students is making a difference, and everyone caring for our buildings and keeping offices and technology up and running are INCREDIBLE. The connections you are making to students and families is evidence of your professionalism and dedication to them and to our field of education. AMAZING!

If we reflect on how we have responded to this crisis on every level, we should be proud, I know I am. We sent home over 1500 Chromebooks over night, we are feeding families who desperately depend on us, we are answering tech emails-approximately 10,000 to date, and we have set up child care for first responder families. These are herculean feats that have occurred with little to not advanced notice. STUPENDOUS!

Through this unparalleled situation we were able to celebrate some joys too, like the births of children and the shouts-outs of birthdays, the pledge of allegiance via video and the community video messaging has been PHENOMENAL, all of us have found new and inventive ways to communicate and stay in touch, because we care. IMPRESSIVE!

Sadly, we have had to find ways to acknowledge and process loss, in ways that are not comfortable nor our norm. There is a lot of loss happening around us and to us. Many have been affected by this pandemic in inconsolable ways, yet we have found ways to rise up to those challenges and "be there" for others in miraculous ways. EXTRAORDINARY!

While we are not first responders we too have been called to serve, and we have, I thank each and every one of you for responding to this crisis and remaining connected to our students and their families. REMARKABLE!

We are waiting for formal decisions as to when we will reopen. In the interim, we will continue to provide instruction, meet with our students and families to meet their needs and work together. Stay healthy, stay tuned for changes, know we are all working and doing the best we can. Wishing you all continued fortitude.

Review the CoAI for "updates in purple"

- Elementary ~ COVID19 support form is to be used during this time - ask your administration as needed.
- Secondary ~ building support forms were created - ask your administrators as needed.

Big Ideas we are grappling with should we remain closed through the end of the year:

- FOR ALL: re-entry plans
- Elementary-class placement processes/ moving-up/ Incoming K DIAL Screening/Textbook Orders/Schedules
- Secondary-award ceremonies/prom/graduations/yearbooks/summer school/scheduling

DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Getting to know features of Benchmark Reader's and Writer's Workshop.

- Reading and Writing Mini-lessons are short and focused, and use complex grade-level text. The mini-lesson format supports the 4-step gradual release process – focus, model, guided practice, bridge to transfer for independence.

Building Better Readers and Writers in Grades K - 12

- April has been designated National Poetry Month since 1996 by the Academy of American Poets. Let's celebrate with the 2020 Poem in Your Pocket Day on Thursday, April 30. On this day, select a poem, carry it with you, and share it with others and on social media using the hashtag #pocketpoem. What your favorite poem? Here's a stanza from one of my favorite poems? Also check out Love that Dog by Sharon Creech.

From The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Math

It has been reported that, nationwide, teachers of mathematics threw up their hands in frustration when school closures occurred recently. I imagine that those teachers lacked the tenacity of their Lakeland counterparts who, as you may know, rolled up their sleeves, sat up in their chairs, and ramped up their Google Classrooms. At last count, more than 35 different web-based resources were called upon by these pedagogues, including (*in no particular order*):

thinkcentral.com	splashlearn.com	Microsoft Office
mathbitsnotebook.com	Google Forms	brainpop.com
educreations.com	emathinstruction.com	pdfs
Google Slides	engageny.org	youtube.com
xtramath.org	problem-attic.org	Google Docs
edpuzzle.com	khanacademy.org	jmap.org
OneNote	dreambox.com	lamar.edu
collegeboard.org	Google Sites	kutasoftware.com
email	castlelearning.com	screencastify.com
albert.io	prodigygame.com	Google Sheets
Google Meet	mrnussbaum.com	deltamath.com
virtualnerd.com	nysed.gov	greatminds.org

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SCIENCE

Everyone is doing an amazing job of keeping our students moving forward. The use of Google Classroom, Google Meet, Castle Learning and many other tools is helping our students to continue their learning. Some examples include Earth Science videos on The Geology of New York State ,Planet Trivia in Grade 6 Science, Sustainability videos in Environmental Science.

Schools had closed before Grade 5 at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School was able to present their projects at their Science Fair. The creative minds made a virtual science fair where each student was able to share their project and talk about it in a quick video clip. Congratulations to the students and teachers on creating a Flipgrid Science Fair.

Watch for news next month on how our Science Research Students will be creating a virtual Science Symposium this year.

There have also been updates from the New York State Department of Education (NYSED). All of the June Science Regents have been cancelled. Our students who successfully complete their Regents science classes will receive Regents credit.

We also received word from NYSED that the time table for the implementation and assessment of new science standards have been updated. Link to the website:

<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/science-standards-timeline-revised-april-2020.pdf>

Highlights of new dates include:

June 2021- Last year for administration of the Grade 4 Elementary Science Assessment

June 2022- No Grade 4 Science Assessment. Last year for the current Grade 8 Intermediate Science Assessment.

June 2023- First administration of the new Grade 5 & Grade 8 Science assessments based on the new NYS Science Learning Standards.

June 2024- First administration of the new Biology and the new Earth and Space Science Regents

June 2025- First administration of the new Chemistry and the new Physics Regents.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Continuity of Academic Instruction resources being used by the World Language Department:

Youtube.com	Educandy.com	Scholastic Magazines	Languages Online	Fluentkey
Conjuguemos.com	Studystack.com	Gimkit.com	Flipgrid	Sr. Wooly
Quizlet.com	Duolingo.com	Flippity.net	Nearpod	Edpuzzle
Quizziz.com	(Tinycards)	Puzzlemaker.com	Voces	Yabla
	Kahoot			

AP Examination Update:

AP examination updates and information can be found on the college board website. <https://apcoronavirusupdates.collegeboard.org/students>

Online classes are currently taking place to prepare students for the exam.

A student/parent webinar called 'Helping Your Student Prepare for AP Exams' took place on Thursday, April 16th. This webinar will be emailed to students/parents to view if you were not able to view it live.

Virtual Tours:

If you can believe it, we have been cooped up in our houses for over a month. If you're interested in 'getting out,' here are two great websites where you can take a virtual tour of the beautiful cities of Barcelona, Spain and Rome, Italy!

<https://www.airpano.com/360photo/Barcelona-Spain/>

<https://www.youvisit.com/tour/rome>

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SOCIAL STUDIES

April 22, 2020 marks 50 years of Earth Day. The overarching theme for this year is climate change. Climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life-support systems that make our world habitable. Check out various articles on climate and climate change at www.readworks.org

SS Lesson Happenings

Social Studies teachers are doing a wonderful job engaging students through their Google Classroom lessons. Examples of some of the lessons and activities include- interactive scavenger hunts; virtual tours; enrichment documentaries; historical evidence letter writing project; biography project using Syracuse Library databases; Emmet Till research and writing assignment; journal project covering daily news and family happenings; analyzing primary documents; WW II multimedia project covering topics such as rationing, racism, Hollywood contributions, and Code Talkers; Egg Company project where students create a business plan, design an egg carton, and create advertisements; the Stock Market Game; book discussions; Congress interactive; AP review and exam preparation

Social Studies AP Courses

AP Classroom- AP Classroom allows teachers to assign topic questions, progress checks, and free response questions. [AP Classroom Info.](#)

Free Online AP Review Classes- Students and teachers can now attend optional free, live AP review courses, delivered by AP teachers from across the country. These courses are mobile-friendly and can be viewed live or anytime after.

[Class schedule](#) [AP Class YouTube Channel](#)

Current Events Resources

Izzit.org is a great resource for social studies. By signing up at Izzit.org, you can receive free educational videos (unlimited streaming and 1 dvd per year) and daily current events (sent to your email). Izzit has all kinds of resources that go along with the videos and current event articles as well- teacher guides, lessons, quizzes, vocabulary, writing prompts, discussion questions, etc. izzit.org YouTube channel izzitEDU

CNN10

CNN10's mission is to explain global news to a global audience. It is a 10-minute news show that appears as a daily digital video. The show's priority is to identify stories of international significance and clearly describe why they're making news, who is affected, and how the events fit into a complex, international society. The show maintains a neutral position on controversial topics. It seeks to provide multiple viewpoints, clear illustrations, and general overviews instead of graphic descriptions.

YouTube channel [CNN10](#)

Scholastic Learn at Home

Day to day projects and activities to keep kids reading, thinking, and growing.

[Grades 6-9](#)



LHS Social Studies Spirit Day Lakeland Apparel/Hawaiian
Hawednesday

SS teacher, Kara Seifts, and baby Aria
Congratulations to the Seifts Family!

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ENL

As we face the challenges of teaching remotely, the ENL Department is looking for ways to support our ELLs in a virtual learning environment. So much of teaching the modalities of English to ENL students involves face-to-face interactions, as well as movement, songs, visuals, and props to enhance comprehension and engagement. Without that in-person small group experience, Lakeland's ENL teachers have been researching and familiarizing themselves with new technology to bring language acquisition to life remotely. Here are some of the virtual teaching activities we are engaged in:

Participating in ELLs' Google Classrooms to support them with their daily assignments

- Teaching small groups in Google Meets to practice the modalities of language acquisition, especially listening and speaking
- Acquiring new technology to enhance language acquisition, including Brainpop ELL, Nearpod, Storyline, Pebble Go bilingual version, Flipgrid, Screencastify and more
- Translating online academic materials for lower-level ELLs

ENL teachers are also using new technologies to better connect with our parents. Teachers and parents are now communicating via a texting app called Talking Points. We have found that texting with our parents has increased communication, engagement, and parent participation in their child's learning process. The ENL staff has also used Google Meets to assist parents in getting their young children on to Google Classroom, as well as checking in to see how families are doing during these challenging times. Between the Google Meets and Talking Points, we are more connected than we have ever been with our ENL population.

ART

- This month all grade levels of Lakeland School District will be creating an Environmental Sculpture inspired by the artwork of Andy Goldsworthy. The Land Art Project encourages students to use natural materials to create sculptures in their own surroundings. Getting outside helps us all recharge and creating art with nature gives us an opportunity to look at our world in a new way. A video presentation of all district creations will be available soon for all to enjoy.
- Students at LTES in grades 2-5 virtually explored the Metropolitan Museum of Art through their #MetKids Time Machine. They were able to look at and learn about many different artworks from different time periods throughout the world.
- Robots have been the inspiration for Ben Franklin student artists this past month. Kindergartners and first graders explored the elements of line, shape and texture by creating robots from recycled and homemade paper. Second and third grade students used cereal boxes, aluminum foil, markers, and wet paper to create robot collagraph prints. Students in fourth and fifth grade were challenged to create their own unique drawing of a robot by thinking about its function, purpose, and design. Starting this week, students will begin exploring artwork found at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- Artists at TJES have been hard at work creating self portraits, aboriginal art, zentangles, insects and emotion monsters. Student work is being presented in weekly videos on the schools facebook page.
- Students at Walter Panas High School, Lakeland High School and Copper Beech Middle School have been creating art of all types during this time at home and will be presenting an online gallery of submissions. Stay Tuned!

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INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Please join me and colleagues from around the district every day at 11AM. Ask a question, share an idea, or just listen to what others have to say. <https://meet.google.com/ago-nseq-ykq>

Google Teaching from Home Hub

<https://teachfromhome.google/intl/en/>

Technology Professional Learning Calendar

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tHsIKHc02wcg8dRE_QKM1KKQJx41enTwXXV8kVewqu4/edit?usp=sharing

Google Classroom resources:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VcaHHnUVp66y2ZSfoNb3EjtkDdC93z44SSkU4XKssaM/edit?usp=sharing>

Digital Tools for Teachers:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15kl5GH3mhZRQhZ8_Hpx9OK-otkmO9KjNkSiY9emmHBU/edit?usp=sharing

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Family and Consumer Science

8th grade - Eighth grades students are wrapping up the quarter with activities that focus on teamwork, leadership, and citizenship. This unit provides a timely reflection for students as they think about their role in their family and within the greater community during the pandemic.

7th grade -Seventh graders have been looking at the issue of hunger in the U.S. and the impact that it has on children and learning. This week students calculated their own food waste as we begin our investigation of the relationship between hunger and waste.

MUSIC

Like all other departments, the Lakeland Music Department has developed ways to continually deliver instruction in an online forum. This new method of teaching and learning has been the result of the tremendous collaboration within the department, the guidance of the district, and through the efforts of students, families, and our Lakeland community. In our current reality, we have found that our students' passion for music and the arts has been sustained in many ways and strengthened in others. As we look toward the future, a substantial amount of the skills we have honed through teaching and learning online will continue to expand our well-rounded approach to instruction.

Throughout this challenging time we have found that many of our students have risen to the occasion and exemplified a passion for learning. Students at Walter Panas have sent over practice logs with reflective commentary, as well as musical compositions created with interactive, online platforms. They have also submitted ideas for music-themed podcasts, video collaborations, and even virtual ensembles. At Lakeland High School, students were assigned a project in which they were to look around their homes & yards, experiment with various items/materials and what sounds they can make, and then record themselves creating one sound in each of three categories: animal, nature, and imaginary. They could use anything to create any sound. Lakeland-Copper Beech students have done arrangements of Band pieces that students are now working on at home - written parts and audio were shared through google classroom. The audio was a collaboration of students recording all the parts on different instruments. At the elementary level, some of our students interviewed family members and friends between the ages of 40-60+ to learn more about their musical experiences from their youth. Students learned that music from the 60's and 70's sounded pretty good! Elementary music teachers have been collaborating weekly via Google Meet to brainstorm lessons and discuss best practices in distance learning. Some activities students are participating in are practicing their skills reading pitches and rhythms, composing their own music using the Chrome Music Lab, watching informative videos, playing online music games that reinforce skills, and discovering new avenues for music making from home. Teachers have been connecting with students via online posts and commentary in their music Google Classrooms, Google Meet sessions, collaborative JamBoards, and heartfelt email exchanges.

Although our All-County concerts, NYSSMA Solo, Majors, and Piano festivals, as well as many of our community-based performance groups have been cancelled this season, our students' preparation for these musical endeavors have spurred immense growth. Further, when students practice for performances in addition to our school events, it not only positively impacts each student but also our school groups. Please stay tuned for alternative performance opportunities through these musical organizations as we move forward.

By working together and sharing our best ideas, the Lakeland Music Department has continued the flow of instruction despite the many hurdles of our current situation. Our local, state, and national organizations have also offered a myriad of resources to support teaching and learning, including the Westchester County School Music Association (WCSMA), the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA), Westchester County Arts Leaders Association (WCALA), and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). We look forward to continued collaboration in order to provide our students with more and more musical opportunities as we wind down our school year. Thank you to our students, families, and community members for helping to keep the music alive!

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Elementary PE:

Elementary PE teachers are suggesting students remain active during this difficult time, by participating in twenty minutes of physical activity each day. Students were introduced to GoNoodle.com, but are also being encouraged to get outside in the fresh air. In addition to regular physical activity, students are being provided a warm-up to get their bodies moving. Finally, teachers are posting articles, videos and various resources for our students to read/watch. Topics covered in these resources include the importance of hand-washing to the importance of sleep. Teachers are utilizing the website Kidshealth.com to find kid-friendly resources to share with their students. Students are very responsive and excited to be engaging with their PE teachers via Google Classroom.

Secondary PE:

Secondary PE teachers at Lakeland, Walter Panas and Copper Beech are providing their students with home workouts that require minimal or no equipment. Students are required to complete 2-3 workouts per week and briefly reflect on their performance or the workout itself. In addition to providing their students with different ways to be active while at home, teachers are also posting resources for their students. Some of these resources include interesting articles/videos and workout videos or fitness routines. Teachers are collaborating on the information being shared with their students and working together to navigate Google Classroom.

MS/HS Health:

Mrs. Lombardo is moving into her stress unit, however previous assignments were posted as a forum in her Google Classrooms so students have the opportunity to respond to the rest of the class if they feel comfortable. This allows students to see how others in their class are feeling in regards to a particular topic and comment as if they were back in a normal class setting. She continues to use eye-catching, fun handouts to get her information across to her students.

Mrs. Petrucci is continuing to implement her "Tech Free Tuesday's" by encouraging her students to "unplug" for 60 minutes during the course of the day. She encourages her students to reflect on the experience and provides them with ways they can engage with their families and be present. Students are also being asked to continue utilizing their journals, which is something that was easily transitioned from the classroom into Google Classroom. It is a great way to provide students with an outlet considering the circumstances they are currently facing.

Mrs. Bloom meets with her students via Google Meet frequently to check in on the status of their work. Each day, her students are provided with a worksheet that breaks down the class assignment, often including breathing exercises, a writing prompt and a video for them to watch. She is also continuing to provide her students information and follow-up questions in regards to the DARE program, so they may continue to receive the information and knowledge they need.

Mrs. Barone covers a variety of health topics in her Google Classrooms. She utilizes Scholastic Choices to provide her students with articles about various relatable topics to her class. In addition to the articles, she is able to attach short quizzes for her students to complete and submit to her. Other resources found on her Google Classroom includes Quizlet and BrainPop videos that are appealing and fun for her students.

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"April poetry challenges brighten dark time"

<https://www.columbian.com/news/2020/apr/14/april-poetry-challenges-brighten-dark-time/>

A traditional Japanese **haiku** is a three-line **poem** with seventeen syllables, written in a 5/7/5 syllable count. Often focusing on images from nature, **haiku** emphasizes simplicity, intensity, and directness of expression



Thank You to This Month's Contributors: Mindy Albert-Bergen, Ed Becker, Rich Dashnaw, Rebecca DiSisto-Leslie, Tiffany Dyckman, Karen Gagliardi, Kathy Mills-Hastings, Kate O'Connor, Kelly Rampola, Chris Ruggiero, Mike Schaper, Scott Staub, Jaime Stroffolino, Patty Viggiano, Terri Wilkowski

"Education is all a matter of building bridges"
-Ralph Ellison