



Lakeland's Latest on Curriculum and Instruction



OCTOBER 2020 EDITION

A Note From Karen Gagliardi

The office of Curriculum and Instruction has been quite busy planning for the lead up and for the opening of all of our schools in both remote and hybrid models.

All of the faculty and staff had spent four days in the beginning of September preparing lessons, reorienting technology tools and platforms, and getting reacquainted with the new "norms" of school life of 2020-2021.

Many faculty, staff and administrators have been steeped in transitioning into new methods of communication through Google. Google and technology as a whole have been parallel partners in our work with one another and with our students and families. Classroom experiences now include students both virtually, and in-person, bringing about a whole new dimensional shift throughout the field of education. Lakeland has successfully made the instructional shifts needed to connect with students, deliver high quality content while keeping school traditions and the nuances of school life alive and well. Though the new environment does present some challenges, overall, we have been successful.

We are planning for Superintendent's Conference Day-where our faculty/staff and administration will be engaged in professional learning. There will be several sessions offered to support Benchmark, the K-5 ELA resource, Eureka Math, the grade 6 resource, Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices and technology. The technology sessions will include Model Schools Technology options.



DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Elementary teachers have been launching the new Benchmark program for literacy. They have been working together in their grade levels. The instructional coaches have been working hard to support the program. On November 3rd the elementary teachers will be training with Patty McGee, a specialized Benchmark trainer, who will concentrate on the writing process.

MATH

Here's what Grade 6 teachers are saying about EUREKA Math, our new resource for mathematics in Grade 6:

"While utilizing the Eureka curriculum to its fullest extent, I have been able to support my students by incorporating additional opportunities for all levels of learners."

"The Homework Helper (HH) is particularly useful, especially for those students who were at home for the lesson. The HH provides sample problems from the lesson and breaks them down with step-by-step solutions. This is particularly useful for parents when they are assisting with homework assignments."

"The white space throughout the book is great for note-taking, and I've recommended that students use the workbook for their notes rather than a separate notebook."

"Eureka being linked to Edulastic is also a positive feature."

"Eureka Math has made my transition to middle school much easier. It is a very organized program that is easily transferred to a digital resource for both teachers and students. It has rich problem solving questions embedded into every lesson so that students learn real-life application of what they are learning. These problems have also created wonderful math discussions in the classroom."

It's more than just a textbook/workbook! It's a resource that allows us to pivot from in-school, to a hybrid model, to all-virtual.

SCIENCE

Our Elementary students will be continuing with our Science 21 Program. Grades K-3 now have updated curriculum that aligns with the newly implemented New York State Science Learning Standards. (NYSSLS). This will be the last year that grade 4 addresses the older MST standards.

Our middle and high school teachers have been working on creating interactive lessons. They have been using videos, lab demonstrations, and simulations to help students understand various phenomenon in science.

ALBERTio

All high school teachers and students have access to this online assessment program. The program covers all the various subject areas and has data bases for all the Advanced Placement (AP) courses we off in the district. Any high school teacher who wants to access the program please contact

Patty Viggiano @ pviggiano@lakelandschools.org for information.

Hudson River Teacher Center Update

The Teacher Center programs are available to our Lakeland District teachers and administrators.

Some upcoming workshops:

Full catalog available at:

https://www.mylearningplan.com/webreg/catalog.asp?D=13064&M=&Term=&btn_View=Search&INT_PROGRAMID=67052&StartDate=08%2F13%2F2019&EndDate=01%2F31%2F2021&Instructor=&Page=1

- Strategies for Supporting Community in a Blended and/or On-Line Classroom
- Creating a Culturally Responsive Classroom
- Instructional Supports for English Language Learners - This session can be used to meet CTLE hours and fulfill C.R.154 requirements
- Student with Disabilities Extension Series for Grades 7&8.

ENL

ENL students in grades K-12 are benefiting greatly from their four-day schedule, receiving all of their mandated ENL minutes as well as in-person support in the classroom. ENL teachers are supporting students both in-person and remotely and assisting students with their content area classes.

The annual ENL Parent Orientation will take place remotely this year on October 15. This year we will be holding 4 sessions: Elementary ENL in English and Elementary ENL in Spanish (both at 6:00), and MS/HS in English and Spanish (both at 7:00). Parents will get more information about the ENL program, the hybrid model, Google Classroom, community resources, and how to support their children's academic success.

SOCIAL STUDIES

National Hispanic Heritage Month 2020 September 15 - October 15

National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the histories and cultures of the U.S. Latinx and Hispanic communities and their contributions to American society.

National Hispanic Heritage Month Education Resources:

[Hispanic Heritage Month](#) Teacher's Guide brings together resources created during National Endowment for the Humanities' Summer Seminars and Institutes, lesson plans for K-12 classrooms, and think pieces on events and experiences

[NEA National Education Association](#) Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage month with these lessons, activities, videos, and more.

[PBS Independent Lens](#) Collection of documentaries to help understand and gain a better understanding of Latinx culture in the United States. These films address the role of Latinx people in shaping American culture, politics, and economics.

Election Day 2020- Tuesday, November 3

Election Education Resources:

[YLi Youth Leadership Initiative](#) Resources designed to encourage students to participate in the political process. Each year, YLI conducts the largest secure, student-only, online mock election in the nation, using electronic ballots tailored to each student's home legislative district.

[ISideWith](#) Surveys you on political issues & helps determine the presidential candidate/political party you side with

[PBS- The Election Collection](#) Collection of resources to help keep up with election news, study the history and process of presidential elections, explore voting rights, and engage in classroom debates

[iCivics- Election Headquarters](#) Curated, non-partisan election teaching resources

Social Studies Spotlight

Several of our high school economics classes are participating in The Stock Market Game™ this semester. The Fall Competitive Session runs from October 5, 2020 - December 11, 2020. A product of the SIFMA Foundation, the Stock Market Game is an online simulation of the global capital markets and engages students in the world of economics, investing and personal finance. Students are given a virtual \$100,000 that they are responsible for managing using real-time trading. Skills in leadership, management, research, and problem solving are developed and enhanced.

A variety of resources (lesson plans, activities, and open communication with their local Stock Market Game coordinator) are provided to teachers. Teachers are also able to participate in scheduled webinars detailing every stage of the game as well as several Professional Development opportunities thanks to a grant from the Nasdaq Educational Foundation. Through the Invest it Forward™ initiative, teachers can request face-to-face meetings (via webinars and Skype) with financial professionals for their classrooms, bringing Wall Street to the classroom. To find out more information, visit <https://investitforward.sifma.org/>

The Invest Write™ competition allows students to demonstrate their increased understanding and knowledge of capital markets and the Stock Market Game. InvestWrite challenges students to write an essay about what they've learned and serves as a great culminating activity. To find out more information, visit www.investwrite.org

The Stock Market Game can provide students of all ages an invaluable opportunity to increase their knowledge of personal finance. The Stock Market Game participants compete in one of three separate divisions: Elementary School (Grades 4-5), Junior High/Middle School (Grades 6-8) and High School (Grades 9-12). To find out more information, visit www.stockmarketgame.org

WORLD LANGUAGE

The World Language Department has been busy celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month which takes place each year from September 15th-October 15th.

Ms. Moussa at WPHS completed several projects with her students to recognize this important month. In her level 3 and 4H classes, students picked a historical figure and cultural objects. They researched, compared and contrasted and answered questions using Jamboard while working cooperatively with a partner. Her Spanish Language AP class researched a specific Spanish speaking country and became knowledgeable about its geography, history, culture, political and historical figures, and were able to compare two cultures. In Spanish AP Literature and Culture, her students learned about La Edad Media, its history and studied the old difficult Spanish language while analyzing the temas, recursos literarios, and contexto historico.



Spanish 4 Honors

- ❖ ¿Como se llama el objeto?
 - Se llama los trajes del flamenco.
- ❖ ¿Cuál es el propósito del objeto?
 - Los trajes que se usan durante este baile son muy importante para la cultura.
- ❖ ¿Qué relación tiene el objeto con la cultura?
 - Los trajes del flamenco son una emblema de la música volverse un portiona de la cultura y la baile refleja la relación tiene las personas y la tierra.
- ❖ Compararlo con un aspecto similar a algo en tu cultura
 - Los trajes es similar a las uniformas de clásico ballet porque ambos es la emblemas de un estilo de música y bailes volverse un portiona de la cultura en el país.

Ms. Elmouchtari, also at WPHS, had her Spanish Honors Society students create presentations to show respect to the Hispanic culture. You can view these beautiful presentations by clicking on this link <https://wke.lt/w/s/Ot805j>.



Middle School classes have been creating Google slides to describe their favorite Hispanic figures and bulletin boards have been decorated with many familiar Hispanic athletes, artists, musicians, actors, actresses and other famous Hispanic figures!

The department is also utilizing many new digital tools to help make connections in this new hybrid teaching & learning model. Some of the teachers at WPHS are using Kaizena to have students from one cohort work with the students in the other cohort. This is helping students feel as if they are all part of the classroom community regardless of whether they are receiving in person instruction or are home learning remotely.

ART

Elementary Artists are hard at work finding inspiration outside their windows as the Fall Season begins. Students are learning about the change of seasons and creating wonderful Autumn inspired masterpieces. Some artists are even learning to work with new materials like cardboard, found objects and nature! They are also excited to explore how the Principles of Design affect their compositions.

In the Middle School sixth graders are completing a name design project inspired by the work of Romero Britto. They are also working on learning the different colors schemes in preparation for their next project inspired by Hawaiian based artist, Colleen Wilcox, who is inspired by nature's beauty and vibrant colors intertwining together. Seventh Graders are working on incorporating the elements of art in an abstract design to create the principles of art. Students have also explored optical illusions created by Bridget Riley and Victor Vasarely. Eighth Graders are creating geometric abstractions inspired by the Optical Illusion hexagon designs of artist Victor Vasarely. Students have also been introduced to several styles of art and have discussed the distinctions between them.

The High School Art program is implementing the elements and principles of design into varied courses for consistent skill building and visual communication. Teachers are adapting lessons to digital media and adding document cameras as a tool in delivering hands on instruction. Students are working with clay, paint, charcoal and mixed media. Photographers are out and about capturing light, reflections and the change of season.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Most teachers should have breakout rooms in Google Meet, here are some ideas on how to use them effectively <https://www.hollyclark.org/2020/10/06/11-best-practices-for-breakout-rooms/>

Jamboard is also integrated into Google Meet some tips to get started here

<https://www.hollyclark.org/2020/10/13/how-to-use-jamboard-10-ideas-to-get-you-jammin/>

Social Media Inspired Google Slides Templates:

<https://ditchthattextbook.com/social-media-templates/>

STEAM

The STEAM Coordinators have sent out a survey to all building administrators to gather stakeholders' feedback toward creating both a district-wide STEAM Team and program. We are taking purposefully-paced steps and actions to accomplish the goal of creating a cohesive and comprehensive K-12 STEAM Program for Lakeland students.

GUIDANCE

The counselors in the Guidance Department are so excited to be working with students in the new school year. Typically as the first point of contact for students and parents, the counselors work to provide academic and social/emotional support. With the hybrid and remote nature of the school year, the counselors are mainly communicating via phone, email, and virtual meetings.

Each of the grades, 6-12, have Google Classrooms in which the students are a part of. Here, the counselors are communicating guidance-related information on an on-going basis.

The high school counselors successfully hosted the first-ever virtual Senior College Night to kick off the college application season. In lieu of in-person visits from college admissions counselors, we are using the RepVisits feature in Naviance to host them. Students log into their Naviance accounts to register for virtual meetings with colleges. So far, approximately 80 colleges are "visiting" Lakeland High School and Walter Panas High School this fall.

The juniors will be given access to Naviance followed by a series of lessons to guide them through the college and career components of the program.

Both the juniors and sophomores had the opportunity to take the PSAT. This exam, offered by College Board, is a practice test designed to give students exposure to a national exam which may be used in the college application process.

Counselors are beginning to meet with freshman students to support their transition into high school. This is a great way for ninth graders to connect with the counselor they will have throughout their high school careers.

At Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School, the counselors are in full swing meeting with students. The counselors are continually hosting meetings with students to support their adjustment in their new grades.

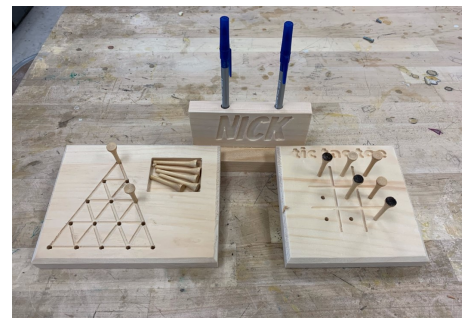
They are working closely with students to provide structure and routine as well as tips and strategies for social-emotional wellness and mindfulness.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The CTE Department has been continuing with it's many hands-on and virtual projects helping students grow skills they will need to be self-reliant, widely skilled, and well prepared for future careers.

Throughout the year student in CTE class will learn a wide variety of skills such as typing and computational thinking in Computer Science, woodworking, CAD and 3D printing in Tech, decision making, personal finance, and career planning in Consumer Science and business management, child psychology, and coding and robotics in our many high School classes.

These are some examples of projects completed so far this school year in Middle School Tech.



MUSIC

The Lakeland Central School District Music Department has been hard at work since the beginning of the school year. Students have been able to make music virtually and in person during the virtual and hybrid instructional models. Students have been able to explore the artistic, cultural, and historical importance of music at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Below are just some of the amazing ways that students are engaging with music in Lakeland.

Elementary School Music:

Orchestra, and Band lessons began this week in the elementary schools. For the time being, all lessons are being held virtually in Google Meets.

Band students at Lincoln-Titus ES, Benjamin Franklin ES, George Washington ES, and Thomas Jefferson ES learned how to assemble their instrument, produce their first sounds, and work on their first fingerings.

Orchestra students at George Washington ES, Benjamin Franklin ES, and Thomas Jefferson ES learned how to have proper posture while playing, hold their instruments correctly, and also learned how to play pizzicato for the first few examples in our lesson books! All beginning orchestra and band students are very excited and eager to learn and play their first songs!

At Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, music students in Kindergarten through 5th grade learned about the late, great jazz musician John Coltrane in celebration of his birthday. If John Coltrane was still alive today, he would have turned 94 years old on September 23rd. Students read the beautifully illustrated children's book "Before John Was a Jazz Giant" by Carole Boston Weatherford. Students were able to connect their own childhood experiences to that of Mr. Coltrane through the story, which explored his early life. Students also had the opportunity to explore the legacy that Mr. Coltrane left on music by listening and responding to samples of his music.

Middle School Music:

Chorus students at Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School have been focusing on the various elements of music (melody, rhythm, articulation, form, etc) and applying their newfound understanding to celebrated pieces of Halloween choral repertoire. Throughout the month of October, students will be analyzing the full choral scores of John Williams' Double Trouble from "Harry Potter," This is Halloween from Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas, Thriller, Things That Go Bump in the Night, In the Sorcerer's Hall and Monster Mash. We are excited to kick off autumn with such dynamic selections and look forward to analyzing more songs of the season as we approach the Holidays.

Students in Exploratory Music have been investigating the ways that music and its lyrics influence the brain. They have been learning strategies for listening to and speaking about music critically and explaining the meanings of songs. In addition, students have created collages representing their current musical tastes, which have been compiled into a video gallery to share with family and friends. Students have also created Lyric Analysis Projects on a song of their choice exploring their interpretation of the song, and investigating if their song comments on a social issue, and how, if so, that social issue relates to today. Students created presentations that are visual reflections of their interpretation through color choice and imagery.

Band and Orchestra teachers are utilizing Smart Music for distance learning. Smart music is software on student's chromebooks. Students can play their instruments in real time with an audio recording; the program listens and analyzes their performances and instantly provides feedback by indicating if notes are played correct, incorrect, played too early or too late.

8th grade band students are creating a virtual performance of the song "Believer" by Imagine Dragons. Students are recording themselves playing their band instruments at home using flipgrid and smart music to keep the timing of their recordings together. Their teacher will then sync all of these individual video recordings together to create a socially-distanced virtual performance video.

High School Music:

At Lakeland High School in Studio Music class, students are learning what makes a "good" melody, and they are starting to compose melodies.

In the LHS Chorus, singers created Google Slides presentations of "My Life in Music," aka "The Soundtrack of My Life." They chose a song that reminds them of their heritage, their parents/family, their childhood, the present day, and artist's choice, with an option for lots of honorable mentions if they so choose. They are presenting them, both virtually and face-to-face. Students are participating in Virtual Karaoke Friday and are also hoping to put together a virtual concert in December or January.

Lakeland High School AP Music Theory students are just finishing their first unit and starting on Unit 2 (out of 8). Students are practicing their rhythmic and melodic dictation skills and are preparing to start analyzing chords and chord progressions.

At LHS, Lifeskills and ASPIRE students are learning the song "Fifty Nifty United States," which was written by Ray Charles. Yes, THAT Ray Charles. They will learn to sing the names of all 50 states in alphabetical order. They are also learning some interesting facts about each state and listening to each one's official State Song(s). In addition, Lifeskills and ASPIRE students are also learning the song "Each Of Us Is A Flower," and they're learning some sign language to the song's lyrics.

WPHS Chorus and Chamber Choir students have been putting together vocal parts of songs to try and create a virtual choir. Students have been singing along with each other through Google Meet and other technologies. They are also designing individual goals each week to try and improve their musicianship and expand upon their musical understanding.

We are proud of our music students in the Lakeland Central School District!

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

LHS PE:

Workouts, essential questions and articles relating to fitness, have been the core of the lessons for our remote learners. Those students that elected to physically attend school have been participating in their lesson essential question in the gym and then continuing outside to do the workout that is planned for them that day. Next, the plan is to begin implementing activities using some of the equipment. Activities such as frisbee golf, tennis and archery will be offered along with the walking/jogging unit. Rainy day activities will consist of reading and summarizing an article that is posted in Google Classroom.

LHS HEALTH:

Students have completed a project on Dimensions of Wellness where they were to identify 8 Dimensions of Wellness and what areas they have strengths and weaknesses. For each area of Wellness they had to set a SMART Goal for themselves that would help them work towards improving their overall health.

WPHS PE:

The PE department has kicked off the year with their fitness unit. Students at home and in school participated in a variety of workouts in order to help increase their overall physical and mental wellness. Physical activity is especially important now because it can help boost the immune system, reduce stress, prevent weight gain and improve sleep. There are plenty of activities you can safely engage in to increase your physical activity such as exercising with family, getting outdoors, hiking, walking, biking, using online fitness resources and doing calorie burning chores, such as gardening and raking. Although in today's environment it might take some effort to create and adjust to new fitness routines, regular physical activity can help you optimize your health and well-being during the pandemic.

WPHS HEALTH:

Students began their Drug Education unit, but first started the year with a fun and interactive Scavenger Hunt. During this activity, Ms. Petrucci asked students a variety of questions in which they were given 30 seconds to answer. The answers that students have to give were not verbal, but instead were finding objects around them that would assist them in answering the questions being asked. It was a great ice breaker during the fully remote stage of instruction and a fun way to get to know one another.

LCBMS PE:

Students at LCBMS are reviewing the 5 Components of Fitness, most recently completing the Cardiovascular Endurance portion of the unit. Students who were in school were given the opportunity to get outside the last couple of weeks and run/walk around the large field. The teachers discussed target heart rate and how to locate your pulse with the students. They are currently reviewing heart rate zones while doing specific workouts as a group. They have now moved on to Flexibility, where they are incorporating yoga and pilates into their lessons. Next, they are looking to begin soccer related skills and activities, as well as some modified games including Soccer Golf. In Gym B, they are looking to begin Recreational Games. Activities will consist of the proper way to throw a frisbee, modified Kan Jam, as well as Disc Golf.

LCBMS HEALTH:

Ms. Bloom's 7th grade students are learning about nutrition, sugar in particular. Students have been taught how to convert grams of sugar into teaspoons and then were given a FlipGrid video assignment. For this assignment, students were to video themselves demonstrating the amount of sugar in one particular food item. 8th grade students are currently participating in the DARE program being run by Officer Richard Finn.

Ms. Barone's 7th grade students are learning about peer pressure, tobacco/vaping, decision making and alcohol. Students have been using Nearpod, Pear Deck and Jam Board for interactive lessons, while also utilizing Kahoot. Students also designed anti-smoking posters using Google Draw. 8th grade students completed a research project on mental health conditions and created slide show presentations. A presentation on reliable websites was given from the librarian to these students prior to the completion of their projects. The students used Jam Board to share facts about their research topics between students that were remote and those that were in-person. Some students presented virtually to their classmates. Currently, 8th graders are discussing eating disorders and have utilized Nearpod and BrainPop. Many great class discussions have been had with students at home and students in class!

HEALTH & PHYS ED (cont.)

TJ students just completed their Cardiovascular Endurance unit, including a culminating activity of timed full body workouts. They are now focusing on Flexibility! Students are being introduced to the different types of yoga poses, while also discussing the benefits of yoga!

The **Benjamin Franklin** PE teachers have been focusing on improving their students cardiovascular endurance and general fitness. The teachers have found that by beginning this year with this specific unit, it enables them to not only engage the students in front of them, but the students at home as well. The majority of lessons have been centered around various kids-themed exercise videos. These videos can be done by the students that are in-person and the ones at home, simultaneously. Not only have these videos been great for improving the students' overall levels of fitness, but they have also allowed the teachers to have a more traditional feel in their classes, by everyone exercising together. Some of the fitness videos used include, 'Favorite Character Fitness', 'Girl Power Fitness', and 'Get Moving With Disney-Incredibles'. The outside space at BF has also been utilized in order to enhance the cardiovascular endurance unit. Students in all grade levels will have the opportunity to run laps in the parking lot track area, for as long as the weather permits. Soon, they will begin teaching the kindergarten students how to jump rope and also how to complete various locomotor movements.

The **GW** PE teachers are so happy to have their students back in their gym! The first two weeks consisted of cooperative games that incorporated teamwork, critical thinking and fun (socially distanced of course!). The students are now headed into their fall fitness unit where they will learn all about how to get themselves as fit and healthy as possible!

The students at **Lincoln Titus** have been learning about Cardiovascular Endurance during Physical Education class. While there is a limit on activities that can be done at this time, they have certainly been working very hard at getting their hearts strong while participating in their daily workouts. The next component of physical fitness that they will be focusing on is flexibility.

VC students kicked off the school year with their Cardiovascular Endurance unit. They performed various exercises that got their heart rate going and increased their endurance. They have now entered into their Flexibility unit. They have been doing different stretches, exercises, and yoga poses in order to better develop their flexibility. The VC PE teachers are very grateful to the parents who have been supportive in navigating online learning - they look forward to a fun school year!

Thank You to This Month's Contributors: Elaine Alden, Rebecca DiSisto-Leslie, Tiffany Dyckman, Karen Gagliardi, Frank Gizzo, Candie Lorenz, Sue Lozinski, Kathy Mills-Hastings, Kate O'Connor, Kelly Rampola, Chris Ruggiero, Rick Russo, Mike Schaper, Scott Staub, Jaime Stroffolino, Carol Verrino, & Patty Viggiano

*"When the raindrops come tumbling, remember you're the one
who can fill the world with sunshine."
-from Snow White*

