

# ViewPOINTS

News and Points of Interest from Lakeview Schools



Students involved in the Friends of Rachel program sign a poster to show their commitment to treat others with compassion and kindness.

## Lakeview Promotes Positive Youth Culture

Lakeview High School was the site of a community forum by Rachel's Challenge on Monday, September 22, 2008. Fifty-plus community members joined a powerful conversation on sustaining a positive youth culture in our community.

Rachel Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine High School tragedy on April 20, 1999. Rachel's Challenge, founded by her father, is based on a challenge to treat others with compassion and kindness set forth by Rachel Scott prior to her death.

Hailed as one of the most life-changing school programs in America, Rachel's Challenge inspires, instructs, and enables students and their supporters to bring positive change to their schools and communities. The hour-long community program examined the role of parents and community leaders in reinforcing the decisions youth are making.

Lakeview High School students were introduced to Rachel's Challenge during an all-school assembly earlier that day. The student presentation was followed by a training session involving both adult and student leaders. The training demonstrated how to sustain the momentum created during the assembly.

Support will continue during the school year through a curriculum called the Friends of Rachel (FOR) program that provides additional training and activities to continue the chain reaction of kindness. Ten percent of LHS students were trained.

The event was funded through a Guido A. and Elizabeth H. Binda Foundation grant.

**Our Mission:**  
To provide educational programs in a safe learning environment that develop knowledgeable, healthy, socially responsible citizens in the global society.

## CONTENTS

Homecoming Top 10

Blythe and Rizor Return to Lakeview

Lakeview Schools Food Service Director Showcased in Webinar

Schedule of Days Off and School Closing Information

Lakeview Plans for Health

Board of Education Requests Input on Code of Conduct

Middle School WEB Welcomes 5th Graders

Lakeview School District  
15 Arbor Street  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
**269.565.2400**  
lakeviewspartans.org

**Upcoming Events**  
Fri.-Sat., November 14-15 at 7:00 p.m.  
Thu.-Sat., November 20-22 at 7:00 p.m.  
LHS Theatre  
**Sound of Music**  
Fri.-Sat., November 14-15 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sun., November 16 at 2:00 p.m.  
Mon., November 17 at 6:00 p.m.  
Mon., November 17 at 7:00 p.m.  
Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting  
On the Agenda Student Code of Conduct Consequences  
Territorial School, Staff Development Room

Lakeview School District  
15 Arbor Street, Battle Creek, MI 49015



# ViewPOINTS

News and Points of Interest from Lakeview Schools

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BATTLE CREEK, MI  
PERMIT NO. 818

## Central Office Phone Numbers

Cindy Ruble .....	Superintendent .....	565.2411
Steven Skalka .....	Asst. Superintendent for Human Resources .....	565.2412
Karen Hart .....	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction .....	565.2413
Kay Ferguson .....	Director of Finance .....	565.2414
Dale Bartow .....	Director of Technology Services .....	565.2409
Gordon Dyke .....	Director of Operations .....	565.2450
Shannon Landers .....	Director of Transportation .....	565.2490
Paul Yettaw .....	Director of Food Services .....	565.3758
Suzanne Nielsen .....	Community Services Coordinator .....	565.2415
Wendy Meyer .....	Communications Coordinator .....	565.2415

## Lakeview District School Board

Kathleen Moore .....	President	James Davis .....	Trustee
Maryjane Cipic .....	Vice President	Mark Kreter .....	Trustee
James Nelson .....	Secretary	Daniel Ryan .....	Trustee
Dr. Jeffrey Aderdt .....	Treasurer		

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, employees, sources of referral of applicant and admission and employment, and all unions or professional agreements with the Lakeview School District are notified that the Lakeview School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability, admission or access to or treatment or employment in any of its programs, activities or policies. Any person having inquiries concerning the Lakeview School District's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, the ADA or section 504 is directed to contact the Office of Human Resources at 15 Arbor Street, Battle Creek, MI 49015.

**Lakeview High School**  
15060 Helmer Road South  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.3700

**Lakeview Middle School**  
300 South 28th Street  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.3900

**Minges Brook Elementary**  
435 Lincoln Hill Drive  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.4500

**Prairieview Elementary**  
1675 Iroquois Avenue  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.4600

**Riverside Elementary**  
650 Riverside Drive  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.4700

**Westlake Elementary**  
1184 South 24th Street  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.4900

**Central Office Administration**  
15 Arbor Street  
Battle Creek, MI 49015  
565.2400

lakeviewspartans.org

LAKELVIEW SCHOOLS

## Lakeview Earns an 'A' in Finance

The work of Finance Director Kay Ferguson and the business office staff was commended recently as the Board of Education received an unqualified rating – the highest rating possible – for the 07–08 financial statement audit.

The rating came following the implementation of new auditing standards this year. The new standards require a more stringent review of districts' internal controls for managing risks of material misstatements in the financial statements.

## Middle School WEB Welcomes 5th Graders

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) is a new program adopted by Lakeview Middle School to help 5th grade students transition to the Middle School while providing new leadership opportunities for 8th graders.

Last spring, Lakeview Middle School recruited sixty-four 8th grade WEB leaders to help transition incoming 5th grade students into a warm and inviting educational environment. And that is exactly what they did! The WEB leaders ran a successful 5th grade orientation program prior to the start of school. Fifth graders arrived unsure of their new school and left laughing and very comfortable in their new surroundings.

Several WEB leaders volunteered to help at the 5th grade Family Spaghetti Social where they served dinner to the 5th grade families, introduced parents to PowerSchool and provided tours of our wonderful middle school facility.

As a year-long program, WEB leaders are getting ready for a lunch date with their 5th grade group. This will give the students an opportunity to have lunch in our beautiful courtyard and catch-up on how school is going for everyone. We will provide this opportunity several times this year to reunite WEB leaders with their 5th grade "buddies".



## Students Talk about the Consequences of Using Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

Thirty-eight Lakeview High School students participated in a survey/discussion regarding consequences for student use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco on Thursday, October 16, 2008. Students were asked their opinions on what factors contributed to the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco by their peers and what can be done to discourage such activities.

- Availability, lack of supervision and peer pressure were identified as the top three factors influencing students' decision to use alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco. One student observed, "It is not about the strictness of the code, it is about the effectiveness of the code. It is too easy to not get caught."
- Survey participants believe that the school/coaches are unaware of approximately 92% of incidents involving student use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco. While the school has many procedures in place to monitor student activities during school sponsored events, enforcing student behavior can be difficult during the time they are not in school.
- Participants believe that parents and students are equally responsible for the continued use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco by students. According to the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) administered to Lakeview students, staff and parents every other year, parents are 20% less likely to see substance abuse as a problem at LHS than are students.
- Participation in activities, parent influence, and concern about consequences/personal health were identified as the top three factors influencing students' choice not to use alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco.
- 79% of students surveyed believe that all student activities should be covered under a code of conduct. The LHS Student Government recently adopted a no tolerance policy which calls for the removal of any member "found guilty by the school of use or possession of any substance not permitted in the Lakeview High School Handbook."
- 53% of those interviewed believe that the current code of conduct influences students' behavior. 32% believe that a stricter code of conduct would decrease the use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco by students.
- 58% of students believe that individuals involved in extracurricular activities are less likely to use alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco. Our own statistics indicate that students involved in activities maintain a higher academic grade point average (3.10 for athletics and 3.13 for other activities) than those students who are not involved (2.57).



# Homecoming

TOP 10



**Katie Diamond – Queen**  
 Christen Campbell  
 Emma Dodd  
 Kailee Knickerbocker  
 Meredith Mahoney  
 Chloe McCotter  
 Haley Pearson  
 Andie Pipher  
 Laura Sliva  
 Megan Winerberger

**Dimeko Price – King**  
 Nick Duckett  
 Joel Knight  
 Elliott Laughlin  
 Derek Martin  
 Shawn Methery  
 Zach Segula  
 Logan Sellers  
 Jordan Woodson  
 Angel Zabala



*Congratulations!*



Joe Blythe (left) returns as Graduation Coach for Lakeview High School and LHS Alum Amanda Rizor (right) joins Lakeview Middle School as their Graduation Coach.

## Blythe and Rizor Return to Lakeview

Joe Blythe, former Assistant Principal of Lakeview High School and Director of Teacher Certification at Grand Valley State University, was hired this year as a graduation coach for Lakeview High School students who need additional support to reach the goal of graduating on time. Mr. Blythe will work with students, parents, and staff in a coordinated effort to provide the additional encouragement and guidance needed to accomplish this important goal.

Amanda Rizor, LHS Class of 2001, joins Mr. Blythe as the new graduation coach at Lakeview Middle School. Ms. Rizor holds a degree in psychology from Cornerstone University and a degree in school counseling from Grand Valley College. She will work with Mr. Blythe to ensure a smooth transition for students between the middle school and high school.

## Lakeview Schools Food Service Director Showcased in Webinar

Lakeview Food Service Director Paul Yettaw was one of three national food service directors showcased in an October 8th webinar sponsored by the School Nutrition Foundation (SNF) in partnership with Rich Products Corporation.

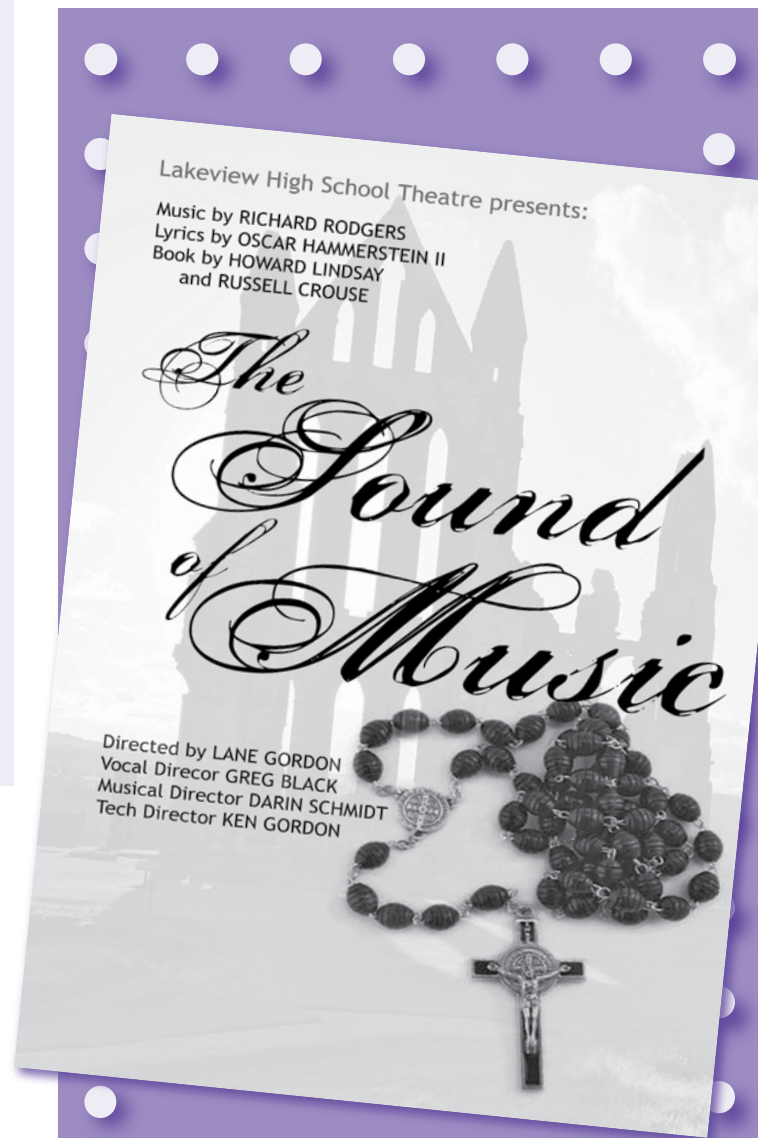
Paul joined food service directors from Jackson, Mississippi and Houston, Texas in the webinar titled, "Paring Food Costs: Comparing Apples to Apples." This webinar addressed the food cost crisis by discussing problems currently faced by school nutrition directors in districts of all sizes. Over three hundred viewers from across the nation logged on to the webinar.



Paul Yettaw, Lakeview Schools Food Service Director

*Check it out!*

Read the award-winning Lakeview High School Crystal News Magazine online at: <http://my.hsj.org/mi/battlecreek/lhs/>



## LHS Theatre Presents Rodgers & Hammerstein's The Sound of Music

### Showdates

Fri.–Sat., November 14–15 at 7:00 p.m.  
 Sun., November 16 at 2:00 p.m.  
 Thu.–Sat., November 20–22 at 7:00 p.m.

### Ticket Prices

\$7.00 for adults  
 \$5.00 for students and seniors  
 District Gold Cards are accepted.

## School Closing INFORMATION

### DAY-OFF SCHEDULE

November 26–28	No School – Fall Break
December 23	Last Day before Winter Break
January 5	First Day after Winter Break
January 15	Half Day
January 16	Half Day
January 19	No School – Martin Luther King Day
February 13–16	No School – Winter Break
April 2	Half Day
April 3	No School
April 6–10	No School – Spring Break
May 25	No School – Memorial Day
June 4	Half Day
June 5	Half Day, Last Day of School

Tune in to the following television and radio stations for school delay and closing information. Current information on school delays and closings is always available on the District web site at [www.lakeviewspartans.org](http://www.lakeviewspartans.org).

STATIONS		STATIONS	
WWMT	Channel 3	WIN	98.5 FM
WXMI	Fox 17	WNWN	1560 AM
WOOD	TV 8	WYZO	96.5 FM
WOTV	Channel 4	WQLR	1660 AM
WXSP	TV 8	WKZO	590 AM
WILX	Channel 10	WVFM	106.5 FM
WBCK	95.3 FM	WKFR	103 FM
WBXX	104.9 FM	WRKR	107.7 FM
HOME.fm	92.3 FM	WKMI	1360 AM
The VIBE	89.3 FM	FLR	96.7 FM

## Lakeview Plans for Health

Lakeview is one of nine districts in the tri-state area participating in a program to improve the health and academic performance of their students.

The MICHIANA II project is a training collaboration between the Michigan and Indiana Departments of Education, their state health departments and the American Cancer Society. The collaboration provides training and support for coordinated school health teams representing a select group of districts.



Lakeview's Coordinated School Health Team has attended two Michiana training sessions which will help them improve student, staff, and community healthy eating and physical activity. The role of the Coordinated School Health Team also includes developing and enhancing health related policies, systems, and environments and building organizational capacity for the promotion of school health programs.



Members of Lakeview's team took twelve staff members to the Annual Healthy Schools Summit on October 6th in Marshall, Michigan. Participants learned how the principles and stages of early brain and motor development affect learning and looked at ways to incorporate movement into teaching strategies.

Over the past several years, Lakeview students have witnessed a number of healthy changes to instruction and to the school environment. The implementation of FitnessGram software, which provides parents with real-time assessments of their child's fitness level, and changes in food offerings support a new, healthier learning environment.

## Board of Education Seeks Input on LHS Student Code of Conduct

The Board of Education, at their September meeting, held an open dialogue regarding consequences for the use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs by Lakeview students participating in athletic and/or other co-curricular activities. Forty-two people attended the meeting, seeking additional information and sharing their thoughts on possible changes to the Athletic Code of Conduct. Additional information on this topic, including the results of a student survey which are available in this newsletter, was presented during the October Board meeting.

While individual opinions on the means of reducing student use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco vary, there were several areas of agreement highlighted during the meetings:

- LHS administration are diligent in investigating student use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco;
- Both student and parent education is critical and needs to start at the middle school or earlier;
- Kids need opportunities to be responsible and learn from their mistakes – we want students to be healthy and socially responsible;
- We want students to be open and honest about the choices they make;
- This is an issue for all students, not just athletes;
- It is important to take the time necessary to collect all the facts prior to making any decisions.

The following opportunities for strengthening the effectiveness of the current student code of conduct were discussed:

- Extending code to include all student activities;
- Adding an educational component for parents and students;
- Increasing parent involvement in the remediation process;
- Providing incentives for students/families to get help, including treatment opportunities available at school;
- Empowering community members to help support these efforts;
- Being able to enforce any changes made to the current policy;
- Creating a multi-faceted approach in order to have the most impact on the largest number of students.

### NEXT STEPS

Opportunities for strengthening the current Code of Conduct – based on discussions with the community and students – will be presented for further discussion at the November 17th Board of Education meeting. Plans are also underway for a District representative to attend the John Underwood Institute this summer. John Underwood is a national trainer in the area of drug prevention among athletes.