On behalf of the Lakota West Staff, welcome to the 2017-18 school year! We are excited about the new school year and the opportunity to work with you and your child. We value your support and encourage you to be an active participant in your child’s education. Together we share the responsibility for our students’ success and look forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure that success. We invite you to get involved through one of our many parent groups, and to stay informed through our weekly emails, website, and twitter accounts.

Below are some things to know about the start of school:

Welcome Back Orientations — Students will get their schedules; locker assignments; important forms; have their school photos taken; and receive important information during orientation.

Freshman: Lakota West Freshman School, Monday, August 7, (A-L) and Tuesday, August 8, (M-Z) from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The principal’s presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Schedules will be available AFTER the principal’s presentation.

Sophomores: Lakota West High School, Wednesday, August 9, at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. Please attend whichever session is most convenient. Schedules will be available to you after the principal’s presentation.

The first day of School is Wednesday, August 16

Freshman Campus: The student day will begin at 7:15 a.m. and conclude at 2:25 p.m. Students should report to homeroom as outlined on orientation night. Schedules will be redistributed during the “0” period. Teachers will distribute classroom supply lists (if any) on the first day of school.

Main Campus: The student day will begin at 8:05 a.m. and conclude at 2:40 p.m. If you are a student with a “0” bell, class will begin at 7:15 a.m. Class lists will be posted on Main Street. Unless you have a “0” bell class, you will not be permitted to enter the building until 7:15 a.m. If you arrive between 7:15 and 7:50 a.m., you will not be permitted to go to your lockers or classrooms. You will remain in either the gym or the cafeteria until the 7:50 bell. Unless you have an after-school activity, we ask that all students vacate the building by 3:15 p.m.

Emergency Medical Forms (EMF’s)

Freshman Campus: EMF’s will be part of the orientation packet and must be returned on the first day of class.

Main Campus: You will receive your current EMF during the first week of classes. If you did not have an EMF on file, you will receive a blank form. You will need to complete the form and return it to school the following day.

Coats and Book bags

Main and Freshman Campus: For security and safety reasons, coats, book bags, and string bags MUST remain in student lockers throughout the school day. This includes nylon bags.

Attendance

Please notify the school as soon as possible if your student will be absent. The attendance line is 682-4115, option 3 for the main campus and 682-4235, option 3 for the freshman campus. Please do NOT call the main school number to report the absence. You may also send an email to the Attendance office reporting our child’s absence, LWHSAttendance@Lakotaonline.com (main) or LWFSAttendance@lakotaonline.com (freshman)

Class Fees

Class fees will be available on EZPay with a tentative date of Thursday, September 7. EZPay information is available on the Lakota Local School District web site.

Student Parking (Main Campus ONLY)

All student parking is reserved. Students can obtain their reserved parking pass in the main office between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. beginning August 1. After school starts, passes are available in the office during regular school hours. In order to reserve a parking pass, you must provide a photocopy of your vehicle registration and driver’s license. There is a $10 fee for parking passes. All previous school year fee and fine obligations must be paid before receiving a pass. Keep in mind that parking is a privilege. If you park in a spot other than your own, park without a permit or if you practice unsafe driving habits, you may incur fines and/or lose your parking permit.
Picture Days

Freshman Campus: Pictures will be taken during orientation sessions on August 7 and 8. Students who do not get their pictures taken during orientation will have them taken on Monday, August 21.

Main Campus: Sophomores will have their photos taken on Wednesday, August 9, during any of the three orientation sessions. Juniors, seniors, and any sophomore who did not have their photos taken at orientation will be photographed on August 21. Lifetouch Picture Forms are located in the Welcome Back section on the Lakota West website. Final picture retake for both campuses is October 2.

NOTE: Students who lose their ID cards should visit the Student Annex Office for a replacement. A charge will be assessed for ID card replacement.

Senior Pictures

Seniors who have not yet had their senior portrait taken need to do so in order to be in Lakota West’s Yearbook. Seniors must submit a portrait electronically to the yearbook committee by January 5, in order to be in the yearbook. Because all Lakota West students are required to have a student identification card with them at all times, seniors will also have their pictures taken on August 21. This does not take the place of their senior portrait. If a senior portrait is not submitted, their ID photo will be used in the yearbook.

Please join us for our Open House/Academic Nights:

Freshman Campus: Monday, August 21 from 6:30 until 8 p.m.

Main Campus: Wednesday, August 23 from 6:30 until 8 p.m.

Communication

Please sign up for Twitwire – Text WEST to 91011. More information is available on the website or in the Front Office.

Look for Lakota West on Twitter: For Principal Card: @firebirdtweets and for Lakota West Guidance: @LWHSGUIDANCE

We will continue using School Messenger to send weekly emails and emergency calls. Please make sure you have signed up to receive Lakota communications. For current parents and guardians, the system automatically recognizes your associated school(s), grade level(s), language preference, and will update as this information changes in our databases. If you have not set up your notification account, please visit https://infocenter.schoolmessenger.com/#/home and sign up!

Visit our website https://lakotawest.ss10.sharpschool.com for important forms, news and daily announcements, the school calendar, and important links to resources such as Naviance, HAC, Athletics and clubs. We also provide a weekly electronic newsletter, scholarship bulletin, and send out frequent informational texts and tweets.

Please visit the Welcome Back section on the Lakota West website for important back to school forms and information. (For students at the freshman building, these forms will be provided for you during orientation.) If you do not have internet access, please pick up a packet from our main office.

- Welcome Letter from Matt Miller, Superintendent
- West High & Freshman Bell Schedule
- Open House/Academic Night Information Letter
- Lakota West High and Freshman Campus Maps
- Staff Lists
- Lakota West Clubs and Activities
- School Calendar
- FERPA/PPRA Letter
- Child Nutrition Department Information and Forms
- Establishing Academic Integrity
- Lakota West PTSO Membership Form
- Lakota West Athletic Boosters
- Lifetouch Picture Forms

Home Access Center- Home Access Center (HAC) is used to communicate grades. If you encounter any problems logging into HAC, please contact us at (513) 874-5699 (main campus) or (513) 874-8390 (freshman campus.)

Academic Reporting – Progress reports and Report Cards will be available online. You can access them through your HAC account. We strongly encourage all parents to utilize this tool.

As always, our goal is to provide an excellent education for your student, and create successful, independent citizens with an enthusiasm for learning and respect for self and others. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a stellar year. Enjoy what remains of your summer break, and as always...GO FIREBIRDS!

Sincerely,

G. Elgin Card
Principal