

Honoring Our Journey,

Lake Bluff SD 65 Leadership Retreat — Route 65 &
Beyond

Charting Our Horizon

Bridging Achievement & Vision

Bridging our three-year strategic accomplishments with visionary planning for Lake
Bluff's educational future.

Retreat Agenda & Core Pillars

MORNING SESSION

Part 1: Reflect & Honor

Synthesize three years of Route 65 progress across all 5 Landmark Goals. Reach leadership consensus on:

- **3 District Glows:** Major achievements & breakthroughs to celebrate.
- **3 District Grows:** Strategic focus areas for continuous improvement.
- **Output:** Institute Day Keynote Briefing Document.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Part 2: Vision & Horizon

Raise our gaze past the Route 65 finish line into 2030+ using global research (WEF, NAEP):

- Examine global workforce and post-pandemic trends.
- Map future student, educator, and community experiences.
- **Output:** Horizon 2.0 Priorities & Strategic Matrix.

Part 1A: Strategic Plan Gallery Walk

Participants collaborate in mixed groups across 5 Landmark Goal stations to evaluate metrics, progress, and district-wide impact:



Goal 1: Student Achievement

Evaluating learning growth, literacy rigor, math mastery, and individualized instruction outcomes.



Goal 2: Staff Excellence

Analyzing professional development, workplace satisfaction, and staff retention metrics.



Goal 3: Community

Assessing stakeholder engagement, family partnerships, and transparent communications.



Goal 4: Fiscal Stewardship

Reviewing budget management, resource alignment, and long-term financial stability.



Goal 5: Learning Environment

Inspecting facility enhancement, safe spaces, and modern learning infrastructure.

Consensus: 3 Glows & 3 Grows

✓BREAKTHROUGHS TO CELEBRATE

3 District Glows

- **Exemplary Academic Growth:** Sustained improvement in ELA & Math performance driven by rigorous curriculum adoption.
- **Exceptional Staff Stability:** Achieving a 94.5% staff retention rate to maintain collaborative culture and continuity.
- **Expanded Multilingual Success:** More than doubling student exit trajectories through targeted language support.

🎯FOCUS FOR IMPROVEMENT

3 District Grows

- **PLC Implementation:** Establishing common collaborative practices for teacher planning, assessment, and differentiation.
- **Future-Ready Skill Alignment:** Integrating Portrait of a Learner competencies throughout our system.
- **Stakeholder Feedback Loops:** Enhancing two-way communication channels with families and community partners.

Strategic Progress Highlight

92%

ELA Growth & Achievement

Strong Academic Trajectory

Through dedicated curriculum implementation (CKLA K-4 and Bridges Math) and structured support, Lake Bluff SD 65 has achieved remarkable academic gains:

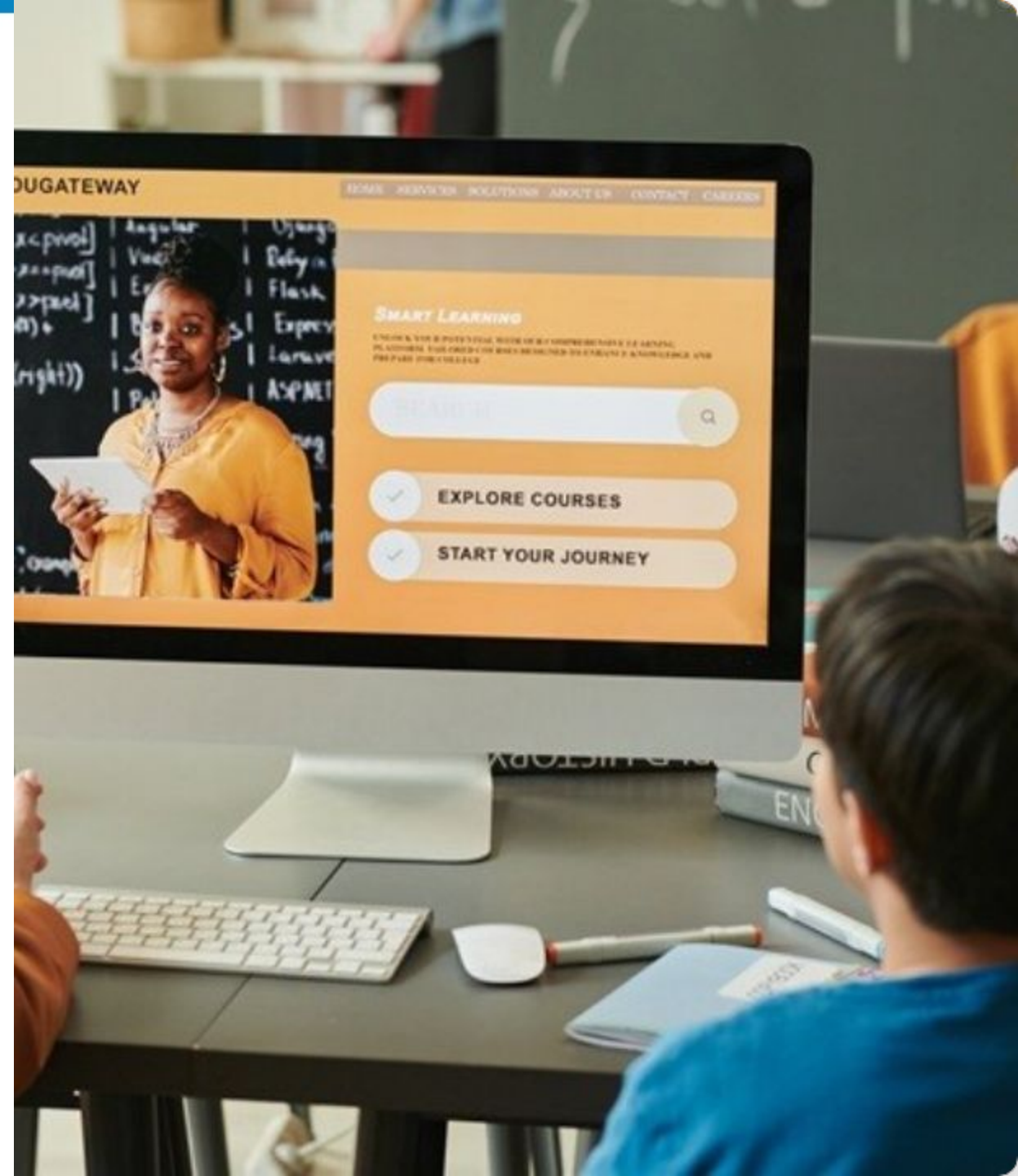
- **Math Proficiency:** Increased from 79% (2024) to 84% (2025).
- **Multilingual Exits:** Grew from 5 students in 2023 to 11 in 2026.
- **Staff Stability:** Sustained an impressive 94.5% staff retention rate.

Crossing the Finish Line

Looking Beyond Route 65

Route 65 has provided disciplined execution and momentum. As we approach its successful completion, leadership must look past the horizon line.

By connecting in a more robust way to our Portrait of a Learner we will better prepare Lake Bluff students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.



Horizon 2.0 Visioning Buckets



Student Experience

Fostering inquiry-based learning, digital fluency, adaptive mastery, and social-emotional resilience for every learner.



Educator & System

Empowering high-performing PLCs, continuous professional development, and agile administrative systems.



Community Connection

Deepening community partnerships, civic engagement, and transparent fiscal governance across the district.

Horizon 2.0 Strategic Synthesis

Horizon Phase	Strategic Domain	Core Drivers	Target Outcome
Near-Term (2025–26)	Route 65 Completion	PLC goal rollout & academic proficiency	100% Goal Fulfillment
Mid-Term (2026–28)	Curriculum Modernization	Portrait of a Learner	Future-Ready Pedagogy
Long-Term (2028–30+)	Horizon 2.0 Launch	Global competence & community synthesis	District Distinction

Institute Day Keynote Briefing



Celebrate Progress: Share Route 65 milestones and highlight the collective dedication of teachers and staff in driving student growth.



Anchor on 3 Glows & 3 Grows: Frame annual priorities around consensus feedback to ensure shared focus and clarity across all schools.



Reinforce the PLC Framework: Support the work of our Guiding Coalitions to lead teacher-led collaborative teams focused on common learning outcomes.

Dialogue & Next Steps

The Board will take some new actions this year to continue to support high levels of learning for all of our students:

- Fall Tours
- Grade Level Representation
- Town Hall Meetings and Two Way Dialogue

Thank you for your leadership, collaboration, and dedication to Lake Bluff SD 65.

Image Sources



<https://online.foundation.co.za/hubfs/back-view-of-boy-using-computer-in-school-with-tea-2025-03-18-22-23-40-utc.jpg>

Source: online.foundation.co.za