Lakeland Joint School District #272

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Report to the Board

Jake Massey, Superintendent
November 18, 2026

Around the District:

We have so much to celebrate around the district!

- Timberlake High School boys XC team won first at state, for the first time ever as a team.
- Timberlake High School's Lola Eggleston placed first in the state as an individual runner, and held the fastest course time of any division!
  (Coach Shawn Lawler now has 24 state trophies in his 22 years of coaching XC at THS)
- Lakeland High School Golf placed third at state
- As of the time of writing this report, Lakeland High School Football is guaranteed *at least* a third place finish in the state for 5A schools, and is playing in the semi-finals on Friday, November 13th.
- In the 2027 Niche Rankings, LJSD was rated:
  - #1 School District in the Spokane area
  - #1 School District with the best teachers in the Spokane area
  - #1 School District in Kootenai County
- All eleven schools hosted a powerful Veterans Day assembly on November 11th. This district tradition is a meaningful teaching moment for our students. We're proud that students learn to express gratitude and support for those who have served our country.

For Follow Up:

Job Descriptions: During the October 21, 2026 regular board meeting, I was asked to follow up with legal counsel regarding whether we could change a job description while an employee is in the position. The short answer is: yes, we absolutely can. We need to be cautious about not making changes that drastically alter the employee's responsibilities, especially if we are proposing tasks/responsibilities they may not be trained for. In our case, we are asking to update job descriptions for at-will employees and we are only aligning outdated job descriptions with the actual day-to-day need. We are following recommended best practice and keeping any affected employees updated as to the content of the change and our process. All of this falls within the allowable parameters of our own policy, 5205: Job Descriptions.

Safety & Security

We just completed a new round of building security audits at all of our eleven schools. This process is completed once every three years and is a comprehensive evaluation done by the Idaho Office of School Safety and Security. As expected, in all cases our schools received a great report and we are working closely with our district safety task force on making incremental improvements so we are always as safe and secure as possible.

Update to Timeline for Supplemental Levy

- December 2026- The district administration's internal deadline for the Strategic Planning Committee's exploration of levy amounts, funding streams and program/staffing on the Supplemental Levy. **During the December regular board meeting, we will present to the board our work and options regarding potential levy amounts and covered expenses.**
- January - **February** 2027- A window of time to hold Board Workshops or further discussion. **Note, I have updated the timeline and shortened the window for workshops to accommodate an earlier deadline for ballot language.**
- March **12**, 2027 - The last day to submit ballot language to the county clerk. **This means that we would ask for ballot language to be approved during the February regular board meeting.**
- May 18, 2027- Election Day

My Goals, An Overview:

As we approach our December 2, 2026 Board Workshop for Strategic Planning, which will include conversation about Superintendent goals and evaluation, I want to share an overview of the goals I've set for myself and the progress made toward them so far.

Stabilize District Operations and Public Relations

My goal is to build steady, predictable systems. Examples include reviewing and strengthening our Human Resources processes, administrative procedures for principals, and safety and security protocols for clarity and consistency.

In Public Relations, we are working to be more deliberate and consistent with sharing information through means that connect with all members of our community.

Increase and Stabilize Enrollment

This multi-year goal includes: improving our open enrollment systems, creating and running an Online School for LJSD students by Fall of 2027, looking ahead to the possibility of school choice within our district and advertising why LJSD schools *are* the best school choice for students in our area.

Increase Academic Achievement

Our main strategy for building on current student success is stronger, better-aligned professional development for all instructional staff across the district. Curriculum Director LaFountaine, Federal Programs Director Badger, the school principals, and I have worked to create ongoing professional development matched to our district's instructional needs. We are already seeing results from the work we began last year.

It is a privilege to serve the students, staff and families of Lakeland Joint School District. We have so much to be proud of in LJSD!

Respectfully submitted,

Jake Massey