



Director of Learning

January 2026 Board Report

Teaching and Learning:

This year, the District Leadership Team (DLT) was divided into two subcommittees, one of which is the **Advanced Math Committee**. This committee has been working thoughtfully and collaboratively to review current advanced math practices, engaging in in-depth discussion and analysis to ensure alignment with research and best practice.

As a result of this work, the committee has agreed to begin with a measured, student-centered approach. Beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, the title Advanced Third Grade Math will be renamed Enhanced Third Grade Math. Under the current model, students enrolled in Advanced Third Grade Math effectively skip an entire year of math curriculum, a practice that is not supported by current research.

The revised Enhanced Third Grade Math course will provide instruction in the full third-grade math curriculum at an accelerated pace, while also incorporating fourth-grade standards. The goal of this structure is to ensure students develop a strong conceptual foundation while still allowing for acceleration. With this model, students who successfully complete Enhanced Third Grade Math may be prepared to move into Advanced Fourth Grade Math, which covers the fifth-grade curriculum.

Identification criteria for Enhanced Third Grade Math will remain unchanged. Students who earn three (3) math scores at or above the 95th percentile will be recommended for placement.

Information regarding these changes will be communicated to all second-grade families in early Spring 2026 to ensure transparency and allow families ample time to understand the updated structure and expectations.

Assessment:

Planning for **Kindergarten Round-Up** is currently underway. The kindergarten team is proposing to share the *Intent to Register Form*, along with a Q&A-style PowerPoint providing an overview of kindergarten, by the end of January 2026 with all incoming kindergarten families. In addition, on May 13—designated as a School Improvement Day—current kindergarten students will participate in a remote learning day. This will allow the school to host 45-minute appointment slots throughout the morning for incoming kindergarten students and their families to visit Elizabeth Ide. During these sessions, staff will conduct initial screenings and engage in observational activities to support a smooth and successful transition for our newest Lions.

Professional Development:

Professional development related to **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** will begin at Lakeview on January 30. Joy DeFors and Kari Gemmel have completed extensive AI training, enabling them to collaborate closely with administration in the planning and implementation of this initiative.

Initial professional development for Lakeview staff will focus on foundational AI understanding, including an acceptable use protocol, instructional strategies for teaching students about AI, and appropriate documentation practices when AI

tools are utilized. Following this initial phase, staff feedback will be gathered to help inform next steps and guide the development of future AI-related professional learning opportunities for students.

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