



# West Ottawa Public Schools

*Preparing Students to Be College, Career and Life Ready!*

## Lakewood Newsletter

2134 W. Lakewood Blvd., Holland MI 49424

Phone: (616) 786-1300

Michael Ghareeb, *Principal*

Lyra Galle, *Secretary*

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Greetings Lakewood Families,

I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Spring Break. As we move into our last stretch of the school year, we will once again be administering the M Step State Assessments this year. Recently, the State of Michigan applied for a waiver from the Federal Government to alleviate the testing requirement this year. However, that request has been denied. The M Step testing will proceed as follows:

5th grade will be taking assessments in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies. Testing will begin for 5th grade on April 20 and will conclude on April 28.

4th grade will be taking assessments in ELA and Math. Testing will begin on May 11 and conclude on May 13.

3rd grade will be taking assessments in ELA and Math. Testing will begin on April 27 and conclude on April 29.

Please do your best to assure that students are well rested, and have adequate nutrition and hydration so that they can all perform to their best ability on the M Step.

We are still working out details on our end-of- the year fundraiser and will be sure to communicate details as soon as they are finalized.

Finally, please be sure to continue to practice safety measures in regards to COVID 19. Although we are not currently experiencing high numbers at Lakewood, the recent increase in cases across the state warrants great care and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Ghareeb



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### April

**16th - 29th** Scholastic Bookfair

**20th - 28th** M Step (5th Grade)

**27th - 29th** M Step (3rd Grade)

#### May

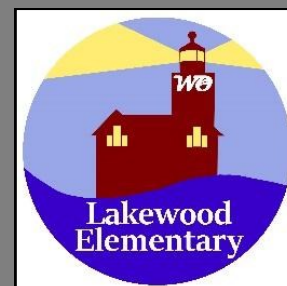
**4th** Chipotle Family Night

**4th - 5th** Spring Benchmark Testing

**5th** Cinco de Mayo

**6th** Tulip Time - Half Day

**11th - 13th** M Step (4th Grade)



**"April is the kindest month. April gets you out of your head and out working in the garden."**

**— Marty Rubin**

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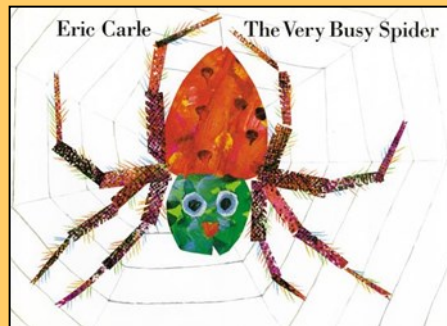
- \* For parents of students on **free or reduced lunch programs**, see important information on page 7.
- \* Need to give something to the front office? Drop off a tardy student or have early pickup? **Knock on the front office doors or give us a call at 616-786-1300.** *Parents and unauthorized visitors are not allowed in the building.*
- \* We're closely following COVID-19 state and CDC guidelines. **Please see page 8 and 10 for how guidelines impact parents and students.**
- \* **Note:** Per MDHHS guidelines, the quarantine period for COVID-19 close contacts and symptomatic individuals has increased to 14 days.

### Quick Links

- [Parent/Student Handbook](#)
- [Lakewood FAQ](#)
- [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#)
- [Previous Lakewood Newsletters](#)

## SPANISH SPOTLIGHT WITH SEÑORA DILLON

Spring is finally in the air and it is a perfect time for kindergartners to learn how to say different bugs in Spanish! We are learning words such as mariposa (butterfly), hormiga (ant), and abeja (bee). Students will have fun playing games, coloring bugs, and listening to bug stories. We will read a few books by Eric Carle that connect well. The Very Busy Spider (araña) is always a favorite!



## ART News

*To see all the awesome things happening in art class, please visit my Google Art Site at the link below!*

<https://sites.google.com/westottawa.net/mrs-halls-art-news/home>

*Don't forget!*

**ART** Makes You Sm**ART**!

— Mrs. Hall



# Moving with Metz!!



Hi Lakewood Families,

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable spring break! We are in the home stretch of the school year! Students are starting to work on their throwing and catching skills with footballs this week. We won't be playing actual football in my class, but there are a variety of games/activities that students will be participating in that help improve these skills! Remember, upper elementary has the mile run test coming up in the end of April / beginning of May. Make sure you encourage your child to get outside and get some running in. Any extra running they can do outside of my class will benefit them when it comes to testing time!

Have a great rest of the week!





LAKEWOOD - WEST OTTAWA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# THE TECH LAB

Week of 4/12



It has been extremely fun getting to know our Sphero Bolts this week! Students were able to drive, draw and use block coding to control their Bolts. Next week, we will continue to work on different coding and programming and give our Bolts some fun tasks to complete!

Lower elementary students also worked on coding using Scratch Jr. Students were able to program certain characters in a way that mirrored a story that we read. This week, we read Muncha, Muncha, Muncha by Candace Flemming. Students made certain characters behave in a way that replicated similar actions from our story!

Have a wonderful weekend!

~Mrs. Fredrickson  
[fredricksonk@westottawa.net](mailto:fredricksonk@westottawa.net)





## *Music Notes from Mr. Loughrin*



**Two little blue-  
birds sitting on  
a hill...**

Kindergarteners learned a song about two little bluebirds. The song was part of a mini-book that students could read or sing, "Two Little Bluebirds".

As part of "March is Reading Month" students practiced singing and reading the book in class and then were asked to take it home and sing it or read it to someone at home.

The end of March and into April is bluebird time in West Michigan. Bluebirds are migrating north and stop in our area to nest before moving farther north. Students learned about how and where bluebirds nest and how humans have impacted their habitat, but are now helping to preserve and protect this delicate species of birds.

You can learn more at: [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern\\_Bluebird/](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern_Bluebird/)

# Pandemic EBT

**Important information for parents or guardians of student's eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch at Lakewood Elementary School.**

## What is the Pandemic-EBT Program?

The Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) Program gives food benefits to families with children who were not able to get free or reduced-price school meals due to COVID. You may hear about this benefit from other schools or in the media.

## Who is eligible?

Being eligible for this program will depend on what school your student attends. Eligibility for the Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) Program can be different between schools within the same district.

## What makes a school eligible for P-EBT?

A school building is eligible only if the building has had 5 school days in a row of reduced in-person hours due to COVID.

## What could make my student eligible for P-EBT?

- 1) If the school they attend is eligible for P-EBT and
- 2) If your student normally gets free and reduced meals at school and
- 3) If your student is not getting instruction in-person for some or all the month.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issues P-EBT benefits based on:

- How each school building reports their eligibility
- How most of the students attend school during the month

There may be months when your student's attendance was different from what the school reported. In that case, you may be able to have your student's benefit level reconsidered. Your request to be reconsidered must be submitted by June 30, 2021. In the month(s) below your school reported primarily in-person. Your student(s) may be P-EBT eligible if they attended class on-line, for some time or all the time in the following month(s):

**September 2020, October 2020, November 2020, December 2020, and January 2021**

**For more information, visit [Michigan.gov/PEBT](https://Michigan.gov/PEBT) or call 1-833-905-0028.**





# GET IN THE LOOP WITH LAKEWOOD!

## MORNING DROP OFF

First bell rings at 8:35 AM. **Students arriving after 8:35 AM are considered tardy.**

To drop off a tardy student, **please park in the south parking lot and walk your student to the front office.**

**Please remember to sign in your student.**

## PICKING UP A STUDENT

If you need to pick up a student before normal dismissal time, **please give the front office a call and email your student's teacher.**

**After 9:00 AM**, you can park in the driveway directly in front of the office.

**Please remember to sign out your student.**

## SICK STUDENTS

Illness happens—we understand! If your student must stay home due to illness, **please call the front office. Tell us your student's name, teacher, and symptoms.**



**Call 616-786-1300 and press "1" for the attendance line.**

If a student becomes ill while at school, we may send the student home for monitoring with a parent or guardian. **Ensure your contact information and preferred emergency contacts are up to date in your student's file!**

## COVID-19 PROTOCOL

A reality of this school year has been managing the outbreak of COVID-19.

Students exhibiting at least **one primary COVID-19 symptom** OR at least **two secondary symptoms** must return home ASAP. To return to school, **students must:**

- Receive a **negative** COVID-19 test,
- Be signed off by a doctor (**DO or MD**), or
- Self-isolate for 14 days or until symptoms are gone—**whichever is longer.**

To return in less than 14 days, you **must** supply a negative test or doctor's note.

*\*\*Please see page 10 for detailed protocol.*

Infinite  
Campus

Parent Portal Login

All families should have a Parent Portal account through Infinite Campus! The Parent Portal allows you to track your student's attendance, report cards, transportation, and other important information!

Please use the following link to set up an account:  
<https://www.westottawa.net/parent-portal/>.



## GET IN THE LOOP WITH LAKEWOOD!



REMEMBER—Online registration deadline for existing students is **June 1st!**

All families should have a Parent Portal account through Infinite Campus! In addition to online registration, the Parent Portal allows you to track your student's attendance, report cards, transportation, and other important information!

Please use the following link to set up an account: <https://www.westottawa.net/parent-portal/>.

If your having trouble with your Parent Portal login, please contact the West Ottawa Public Schools Help Desk at 616-786-2050, extension 2029.

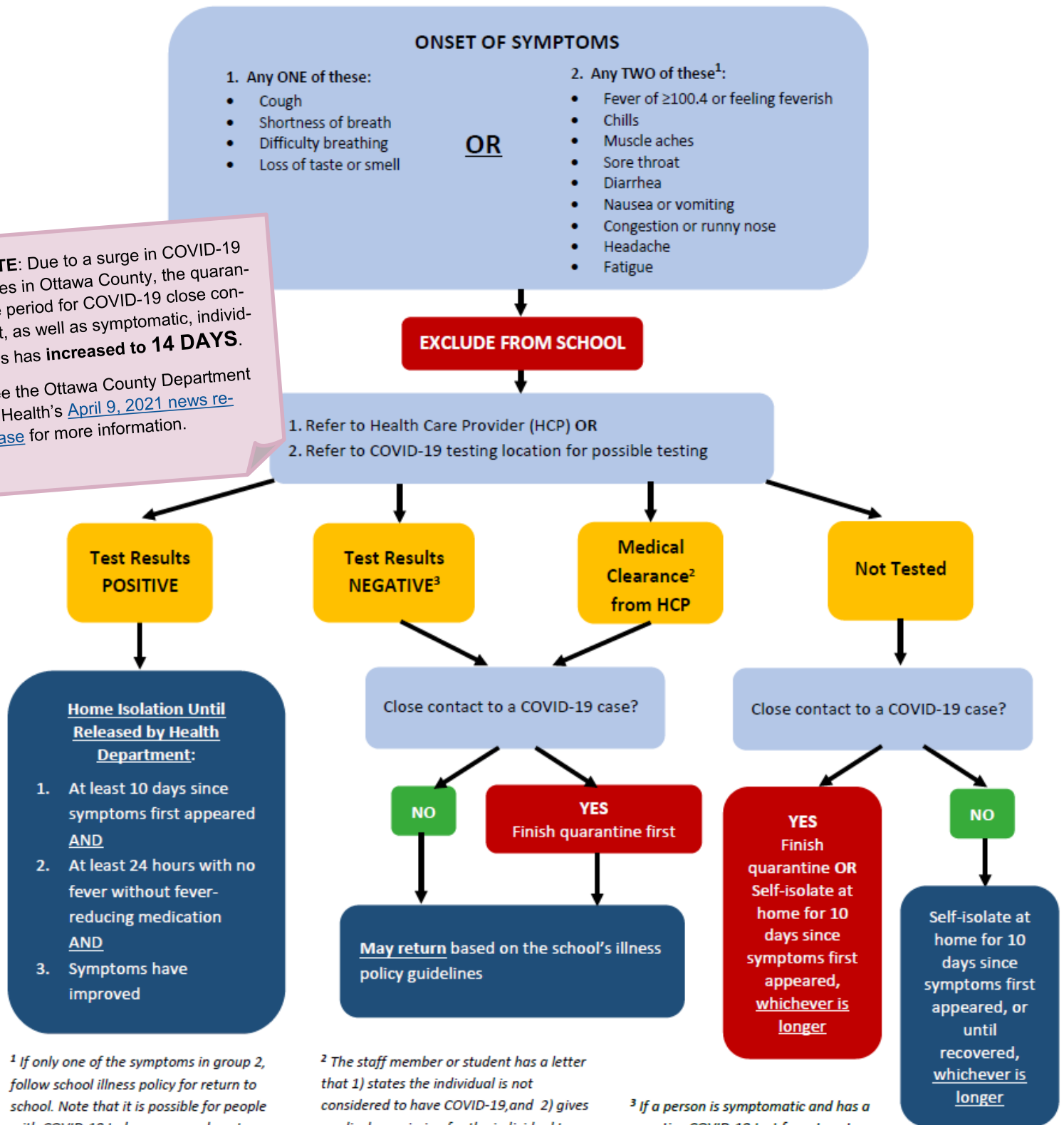


Keep Lakewood Safe! Stay Home If You Are Feeling Sick!

# COVID-19: FLOWCHART FOR SYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS

Published by the Ottawa County Health Department

**NOTE:** Due to a surge in COVID-19 cases in Ottawa County, the quarantine period for COVID-19 close contact, as well as symptomatic, individuals has **increased to 14 DAYS**. See the Ottawa County Department of Health's [April 9, 2021 news release](#) for more information.



<sup>1</sup> If only one of the symptoms in group 2, follow school illness policy for return to school. Note that it is possible for people with COVID-19 to have no, or almost no, symptoms. If you have even ONE of these symptoms, you are encouraged to seek testing or consult your HCP for an alternative diagnosis.

<sup>2</sup> The staff member or student has a letter that 1) states the individual is not considered to have COVID-19, and 2) gives medical permission for the individual to return to school, and 3) provides a specific return to school date, and 4) is signed or countersigned by an MD or DO. See [Appendix E](#).

<sup>3</sup> If a person is symptomatic and has a negative COVID-19 test for return to school, they must provide an official lab result including patient name, date of birth, laboratory name, test type, date of test and test result.



# ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB OF LAKEWOOD

Learn more about the environment  
and help make our school and  
community a greener place!

Contact: Sarah Brown, [22scb01@westottawa.net](mailto:22scb01@westottawa.net)  
Mr. Arthurs, [arthursk@westottawa.net](mailto:arthursk@westottawa.net)



**WE HAVE THE POWER AND ABILITY TO KEEP THE  
CHILDREN IN OUR LIVES SAFE FROM SEXUAL ABUSE!**

## **VIRTUAL PREVENTION TRAININGS**

**5 STEPS TO PROTECT CHILDREN, MANDATED  
REPORTER (MR), OR GROOMING SIGNS**

**2021**

Monday, February 22 6:30-7:30 pm - 5 Steps

Tuesday, March 30 11:00 am-12:00 pm - MR

Tuesday, April 14 11:00 am-12:00 pm - Grooming

Wednesday, May 26 11:00 am-12:00 pm - 5 Steps

Thursday, June 24 6:30-7:30 pm - MR

Tuesday, August 10 6:30-7:30 pm - Grooming

**To register, go to**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/virtualprevention2021>

**Questions?** Please contact Amy Dalman at  
616-393-6123 or at [adalman@cac-ottawa.org](mailto:adalman@cac-ottawa.org).





# NOW HIRING

## School Bus Drivers

Flexible schedule - No nights, weekends or holidays  
Newest buses - Easy to operate  
Part-time work that pays

**CALL: (616) 786-2045**

**Paid  
Training!**

**WO**  
WEST OTTAWA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

West Ottawa is looking to hire additional people for positions starting at \$16 per hour with summers off and no required nights, weekends or holidays. This is a perfect job for a semi-retired person, a college student, a stay-at-home parent, someone needing a little extra cash, etc. We provide paid training and help new hires obtain a CDL Chauffer base license. The job begins by filling in as a sub bus driver and may move up to an assigned run of your own with a pay increase. All of our buses are easy to operate – one of the newest bus fleets in West Michigan.

Please fill out an online application (see below) or contact the Director of Transportation at (616) 786-2045 if you are interested or know someone who might be interested. Immediate positions available.

### ***At West Ottawa...***

- We have one of the newest, best maintained and most up-to-date bus fleets in the West Michigan area.
- Buses are all equipped with automatic transmissions, automatic doors, air ride driver seat, air ride suspension – very comfortable and driver friendly.
- You DO NOT need to have a Commercial Driver License (CDL) to apply. We provide paid training to obtain all licensing necessary to be a safe school bus driver.

*Do you enjoy working with a great group of adults who love kids?  
Are you looking for something to do for a few hours each day... that pays?*

### **Apply online today!**

Do an online web search for: **West Ottawa Public Schools Transportation**

Scroll down to: **Job Application Procedure**

Click on: **'Online Application'**

Select: **Substitute Bus Drivers – Job ID: 2095**

Click on: **'Apply'**

For more information, contact the  
Director of Transportation at West Ottawa Public Schools  
Tel: (616) 786-2045