

Leechburg Area School District
210 Penn Avenue
Leechburg, PA 15656
"Providing Quality Education Since 1829"



MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Leechburg Area School District shall be to teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to be a productive member of a global society in the twenty-first century.

THE COMMUNITY

Leechburg Area School District is located in southwestern Pennsylvania along the Kiskiminetas and Allegheny rivers. The community straddles the southern border of Armstrong County and the northern border of Westmoreland County. The school district is comprised of Gilpin Township, Leechburg Borough and West Leechburg Borough. The population totals approximately 10,000 residents. Employers in the area include light manufacturing, professional and nonprofessional employment throughout the Alle-Kiski Valley and Pittsburgh area.

Geographically located in or near Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler and Westmoreland counties provides numerous resources for residents. Pittsburgh and Monroeville are within convenient proximity. Shopping areas, hospitals and churches of most denominations are located in and around the community. Nearby recreational facilities include the Gilpin/Leechburg Area Park and Pool, Crooked Creek State Park and Northmoreland Park.

There are numerous colleges/universities within commuting distance of the Leechburg Area School District. The school district is associated with the ARIN Intermediate Unit #28 and the StrongLand Chamber of Commerce.

U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT
BACK-TO-BACK BRONZE AWARDS

Leechburg Area High School has been awarded the "Bronze Medal" from U.S. News and World Report, the second consecutive year it has received this honor. The award is based on the College Readiness Index, a measure of the degree to which students master some college-level material.

Schools are chosen for this distinction using data from School Evaluation Services, a K-12 education and data research and analysis business of Standard & Poor's, which has served as an independent, analytical resource for parents of school-aged children, state and national policymakers, and educators.

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

LASD has made Adequate Yearly Progress for seven consecutive years and received the Keystone Achievement Award as public recognition of the quality of work and commitment shown by it's students and educators . PA Secretary of Education Gerald L. Zahorchak, said the award is testament to the tremendous efforts of the students, teachers and staff in the Leechburg Area School District. "We have set high academic expectations in Pennsylvania, and the students of the Leechburg Area School District have responded in an impressive way," he said.

DAVID LEECH ELEMENTARY

Our elementary school educates students from kindergarten through 6th Grade. Class sizes average 20 students in the elementary school providing valuable student-teacher interaction. Students learn all subjects from their homeroom teacher until sixth grade, when they change classes for language arts, math, and science (They learn Social Studies from their homeroom teacher.) This practice gives our students a transition year to prepare themselves for Junior High.

LEECHBURG AREA JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

The Leechburg Area Junior/Senior High School educates students in 7th and 8th grades and 9th through 12th in the high school through a wide variety of curriculum options and on-line offerings through the National Network of Digital Schools (NNDS) and other third party providers in order to meet the needs of all students at the secondary level.

As exemplified by our two US News & World Report Bronze Awards, LHS offers AP courses, on-line curriculum, and Dual Enrollment options to prepare our graduates for post-secondary education.

NEW INITIATIVES

These are a few of the new initiatives being implemented at the Leechburg Area School District:

Dual Enrollment: This initiative allows high school students to earn college credits at reduced tuition while still in high school. LASD has Dual Enrollment agreements in place with Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Penn State New Kensington, Clarion University and Butler County Community College. These courses may also earn students high school credit provided it meets LASD graduation requirements. Transportation to these classes is the student's responsibility.

Cyber School: The district offers a cyber school program through the National Network of Digital Schools (NNDS).

Classrooms For The Future: Provides professional development for educators and puts laptop computers and other high-tech tools in Pennsylvania's high school classrooms.

Pre-K Counts Program: Provides high-quality pre-kindergarten education to three and four-year olds across the state.

Science It's Elementary: Brings a hands-on learning experience to science curriculum in grades K-6.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

David Leech Elementary has a strong PTA organization that provides many opportunities for our students. Free book distributions, field trips, assemblies, memory books, Weekly Readers/National Geographic, classroom materials, Sixth Grade Banquet, Accelerated Reader prizes, and playground equipment are provided to our school through their efforts. Parents also participate in Kindergarten Registration, First Grade Orientation, Book Fairs, Boxtops For Education, Campbell Soup Label projects, Family Reading Night, Open House, Family Literacy PACT program, Santa's Secret Shop, Title I Workshops, Music Class Visitation, Grandparent Reading and Parent Lunches.

Additionally, the Leechburg Area School District encourages strong school to community activities with the Leechburg Area Community Association, Rotary, Elks, American Cancer Society, Central Blood Bank and many other local organizations.

ATHLETICS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students at Leechburg are encouraged to be involved in the many extra-curricular activities that are available to them. These activities range from belonging to Student Council, SADD, Minetas staff, Quiz Bowl, and prom committee to clubs such as Science, Art, Spanish and French. Students also have the opportunity to participate in interscholastic sports such as football, cheerleading, volleyball, basketball, golf, baseball and softball.

THE ARTS

All students are afforded the opportunity to participate in a variety of visual and performing arts programs. Art is a required course in grades 7 and 8 and is an elective in grades 9 through 12 . These upper level courses emphasize techniques and concepts that help develop the expressive creativity. Art history and aesthetics are also components of these classes.

MUSIC

For students interested in the performing arts, Leechburg offers Concert Band, Marching Band, Chorus, Advanced Chorus and Choir Ensemble. Students demonstrate their acquired skills in performances at concerts, plays and band competitions. Instrumental instruction begins early as part of the elementary curriculum. The Drama Club performs a musical every spring in which a large portion of the student body participates.

TECHNOLOGY

The Leechburg Area School District provides a high-speed, fiber optic computer network serving the entire district. There are seven networked computer labs available to students and teachers for educational instruction. The district also provides a dedicated data T1 line for safe and secure Internet access. The K through 6 classrooms are equipped with (5) computers each and are utilized by all students in reading and writing activities. The district has 450 computers available for educational instruction. The district also has interactive whiteboards available for teacher use in the classroom.

BUDGET

The total annual 2009-2010 General Operating Budget for the Leechburg Area School District is \$12,311,210. Funding is derived from Local (44.4%), State (52.5%) and Federal (3.1%) revenue sources. Since the district is across county lines, the local tax burden is shared proportionally with residents in Armstrong and Westmoreland counties.

Leechburg Area School District Calendar for 2009-2010

August	21	Friday	Faculty In-Service Day
	24	Monday	Faculty In-Service Day
	25	Tuesday	Faculty In-Service Day
	26	Wednesday	First Day for Students
September	7	Monday	Labor Day-No School
	10	Thursday	Elementary Meet and Greet Night (6:30-8:30 PM) Jr/Sr HS Meet and Greet Night (7:00-9:00 PM)
October	2	Friday	ACT 80 Day K – 12 Parent/Teacher Conferences
November	2	Monday	Teacher In Service Day-No School For Students
	25	Wednesday	Two Hour Early Dismissal
	26	Thursday	Autumn Break-No School
	27	Friday	Autumn Break-No School
	30	Monday	Autumn Break-No School
December	1	Tuesday	Teacher In Service Day-No School For Students
	24	Thursday	Winter Break-No School
	25	Friday	Winter Break-No School
	28	Monday	Winter Break-No School
	29	Tuesday	Winter Break-No School
	30	Wednesday	Winter Break-No School
	31	Thursday	Winter Break-No School
January	1	Friday	Winter Break-No School
	18	Monday	Teacher In Service Day-No School For Students
February	15	Monday	Act 80 Day-No School for Students
March	19	Friday	Act 80 Day-No School for Students
April	1	Thursday	Spring Break (Possible Snow Makeup Day)
	2	Friday	Spring Break-No School
	5	Monday	Spring Break-No School
	6	Tuesday	Spring Break (Possible Snow Makeup Day)
May	27	Thursday	Commencement
	28	Friday	Last Day of School/Early Dismissal
June	1	Tuesday	Possible Snow Makeup Day
	2	Wednesday	Possible Snow Makeup Day

ADMINISTRATION

**James A. Budzilek, Ed.D.
District Superintendent**

**Cynthia Portman, D.Ed.
K-12 Principal/Federal Programs Coordinator**

**Matthew A. Kruluts
K-12 Assistant Principal/School Psychologist**

**Mark Lukacs
Business Manager**

**Mark George
Systems Administrator**

**Jon E. Turiak
Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds**

**Patricia Camp
Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary**

**210 Penn Avenue
Leechburg, PA 15656
(724) 842-9681**

www.leechburg.k12.pa.us

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

**William Salem, Board President
Michael Cominos, Board Vice-President
Neill Brady
Mary Fisher
Terry Knepshield
David Matuscin
Brian Ravotti
Terri Smith
Kathryn Vargo**

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The Leechburg Area Board of School Directors conduct Public Work Session/Agenda Setting Meetings on the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM and Regular Board Meetings the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in the J. D. Orr Board Room of the Parker D. Baker Building. Dates and times are subject to change with appropriate legal advertising provided. If you have any questions concerning meeting times, dates or location, please contact Ms. Patricia R. Camp, Board Secretary, at (724) 842-9681.

