



W MUSTANG H ROUND-UP

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT:

- Embracing Our Brilliance
- Inaugural Alumni Award
- Blueprint for Brilliance: Feedback Request
- Enroll With Us: 2024-25
- Voices from the Classroom
- ConnectED Community
- ESSER Funds
- School Report Cards
- Upcoming Events



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23
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LITTLE CHUTE
Area School District
fostering a community of learners

1402 Freedom Road | Little Chute, WI 54140
(920) 788-7605



ROUND-UP

WINTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Message from the Administrator

We are well in the swing of the second semester of our school year. If you follow us on social media, you may have started to read stories about LCASD students and their work both in schools and within our community. We encourage all of our students to **Embrace their Brilliance**—to find and follow their passions and the activities that help them shine.



We are both proud and lucky to offer a welcoming and safe environment for all students, filled with dedicated staff, kind and hard-working students, and top-notch facilities. Our student achievement continues to grow because of this winning combination.

As a district, we are excited to serve our Little Chute community families, and we welcome families who choose to open enroll into our district as well. Maintaining and building our enrollment allows us to continue to offer the educational opportunities our students, families, and staff have come to expect from Little Chute schools.

We appreciate the continued support from our Little Chute community as we strive to be the premier destination district for students in the Fox Valley.

Heidi Schmitt

District Administrator



Calling All Mustang Alumni

The community of Little Chute has a proud history of excellence which is founded through the passion and success of its school system. Beginning in 2024, we want to recognize this excellence with an annual Distinguished Alumni Award. The award was established to celebrate graduates of Little Chute High School/Career Pathways Academy who have achieved exceptional professional accomplishment over an extended period, and have been a positive influence in the community or in the lives of others.



Distinguished Alumni Award

The recipient will receive an engraved plaque recognizing their contributions, and will be invited to receive the award at a recognition ceremony during the week of homecoming. A second plaque will proudly be displayed at the high school to recognize the recipient's achievements.

More information will be available on the district webpage in the coming weeks but please spread the word about this new tradition of excellence in our school district.

Building on our Blueprint



The Little Chute Area School District is currently in the last semester of our current three-year strategic goal series: Our **Blueprint for Brilliance**.

Our website has recently been updated with progress measurements for our existing goals. We encourage you to take a look by visiting our website or scanning the QR code above.

We will continue to use multiple data points to create goals and actions to ensure that our resources support the instruction and opportunities around our 8 District Learner Goals and our District Values.

These goals fall into the four areas that are critical in meeting our mission: fostering a community of learners where we meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students. The four areas are: Student Achievement, Curriculum and Instruction, Health and Wellness, and Professional Development.

We are interested in feedback from our community members as we look to update our Blueprint for Brilliance to serve our district over the next several years. There are a number of ways for you to share your voice. Please watch our website and social media pages for updates, as well as an invitation to fill out a survey and provide your feedback on or prior to April 1.

Our district is here to serve our community and educate all of our students to be successful, compassionate contributing members of our Little Chute community and beyond.

A Special Thank You

Our School Board of Education is a vital component of the progress and success of our district. They represent their experiences within our district and the voices of community members, while providing accountability through questions. Our five-member School Board truly supports our district goals.

As we head into April, Joe Roehl, who is currently our Board president, will be stepping down. He hopes to allow another community member to serve LCASD by being a member of the School Board.

We want to take this opportunity to thank him for serving LCASD well through his dedication and active participation on our Board for the last 10 years. Thank you for your service, Joe!



Board of Education



President: Joe Roehl

Vice President: Sarah Beahm

Treasurer: Rob Eiting

Clerk: Shannon Pomeroy

Member: Leon Biesterveld

Little Chute Area School District Board of Education encourages you to become involved in the district.

You are invited to attend Board of Education meetings. Meetings are held at the District Office, 1402 Freedom Rd., Little Chute, WI 54140.

Meetings are generally held on the second and fourth Monday of the month at 4:30 PM.

For agendas and past meeting minutes visit littlechute.k12.wi.us.

Governance Council



Pictured Left to Right: Josh Mcquillan, Heidi Schmidt, Leslye Moraski Erickson, Carl Rambo, Tara Strasburg, Shaena Van Handel, Dawn Grenzer, Aimee Recla, and Tony Bird

Council meetings are generally held on the first Monday of the month at 5:00 PM.

For agendas and past meeting minutes visit littlechute.k12.wi.us.



welcome

to our

NEWEST MUSTANGS

Don't Delay – Register Today!

It's time to register your student for the 2024-25 school year.

4K Registration

Do you have a child that will be 4 years old before September 1, 2024? If so, it's time to think about registering for school! We believe you will find LC's 4k an excellent opportunity! With our small class sizes and individualized instruction, our 4k classrooms offer great learning opportunities for your child.

Registration for 4K starts on February 5, 2024.

If you live outside of the Little Chute Area School District, you also will need to complete Open Enrollment Applications.

Open Enrollment

We continue to attract families from outside our district for many reasons which include our amazing staff and opportunities for students throughout the educational path. Do you know someone that lives in another school district that is thinking about applying for open enrollment into the Little Chute Area School District? Let them know we will be accepting applications soon! The open enrollment application window for the 2024-25 school year will close on April 30, 2024. To learn more or to fill out your open enrollment application form, please visit <https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>.

Census Information

The Little Chute Area School District maintains census information for all residents—birth through age 18—that live within our district's boundaries. This information is used for projecting future enrollment and for communicating about district programs and registration.

Do you have a child that is not currently enrolled in LCASD, but falls into this age group? Are you new to the area or know someone that is that could benefit from information from the district? Please share this information or visit the district's Registration & Enrollment page and click the link at the top of the page to fill out the census information form.

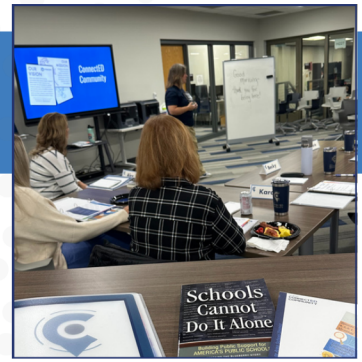
Embrace Your Brilliance!

Become part of our unique community. Learn more about how to enroll by scanning the QR code or visiting www.littlechute.k12.wi.us.





Our ConnectED Community



In October, we started a new initiative called LCASD ConnectED Community. Our cohort includes eight members of our community, who all have diverse interests in our district. The goal of this effort is to inform community members about all aspects of our district on the topics of the Blueprint for Brilliance, Academic and Career Planning, our budget calendar, charter schools, HR practices, curriculum, technology and facilities, and Professional Learning communities. We also make sure to end our sessions with students who demonstrate our focus area in action.

The group is also joining our district's administrative team in reading **"Schools Cannot Do It Alone"** by Jamie Vollmer. The focus of these discussions is to provide insight into how the district can better engage the entire community in the evolution of our education systems to meet the current needs of our students.

This cohort meets one morning each month. This summer, we will open our interest forms for the 2024-25 cohort for anyone interested in becoming a part of our ConnectED Community in the future.

Voices from Class

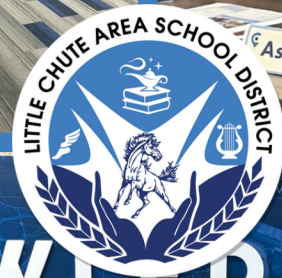
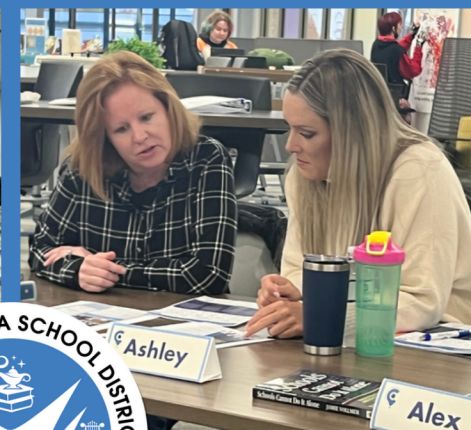
Natalie Lemm, 8th Grade Student Flex Academy

One of the things that I love most about Flex Academy is that it allows me to choose how I want to learn. If one way of learning is not working for me then my teacher helps make the program fit my needs. Flex has helped me expand my knowledge and be able to excel in my work.

Another thing that I love about my school is the community. Everyone is very supportive and lifts each other up. If someone needs help or is struggling with their work then everyone is ready to help. Flex has allowed me to interact with bright young adults and has greatly improved my people skills in a smaller community.

Going two days a week allows me to be more self-sufficient with my learner coach at home and to grow my independence, as well as get to socialize with my peers at school. Flex gives me the opportunity to structure my at home days and have my afternoons flexible for other hobbies.

The teachers at Flex Academy are always welcoming and are in the happiest mood they can be in. When I see them in the morning I know they are going to make it an amazing day. When I head to school on Tuesday and Thursday I am eager to learn new things.



Supporting LCASD Schools with ESSER Funds

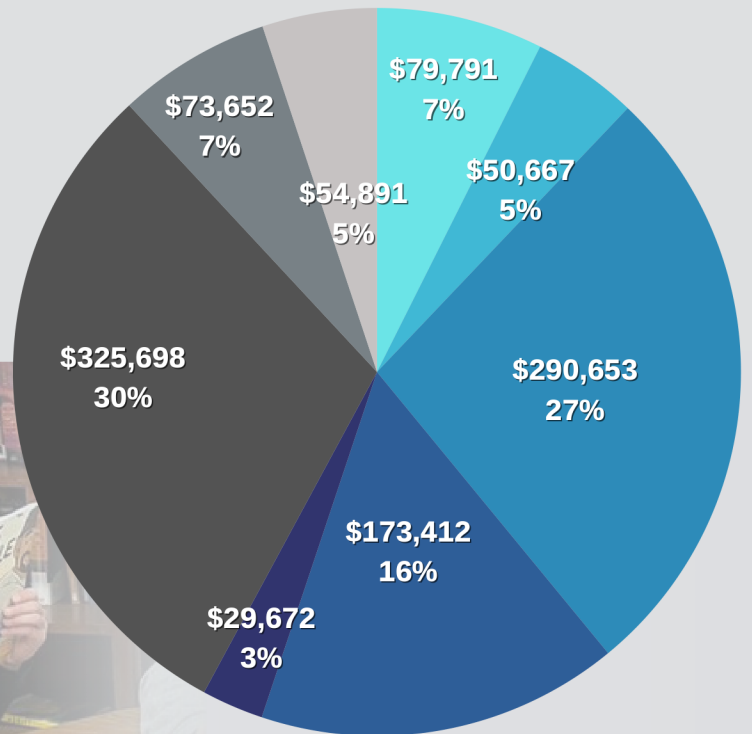
Between March 2020 and 2021, Congress passed three stimulus bills that provided financial support under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER or ESSERF) to local educational agencies (LEAs) throughout the country. These funds provide emergency financial assistance to address the impact that pandemic has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools. The funds are separated into three different grants known as ESSER I, II and III.

As a follow up to previous newsletter reports, we are providing information on the status of those funds and how the dollars are supporting education in the Little Chute Area School District. The District has spent and claimed all funds related to ESSER I (\$144,497) and ESSER II (\$890,023). We have claimed a portion of ESSER III funds (\$199,838). ESSER III funding expires September 2024. Therefore, within the 2023-24 school year, the remaining ESSER III funds of \$1,078,436 are budgeted in a variety of ways (see chart) and will be claimed at the end of the district's fiscal year of June 2024.

Our use of these funds continues to focus on support for students including math and reading support, English learner support, at-risk program support, mental health support and much more. It should be noted that due to current budget constraints some of the ESSER funds are being used to balance our budget and support existing staff. ESSER funds will not be available beyond this school year, so this is something that we will need to take into consideration as we start planning for our next fiscal year.

LCASD ESSER III 2023-24 Budget

- Staffing
- Technology
- Reading Support
- Math Support
- Other
- Mental Health Support
- Nurse/Health Support
- Professional Development



Exceeding Expectations

The 2023-24 school year is off to a great start throughout the Little Chute Area School District. We are proud of how staff, parents, and students collaborate to ensure student learning.

As a learning community, we are continually looking to improve the Little Chute Area School District. One source we use to reflect on our strengths and opportunities for growth is the School Report Card.

In November, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction released the latest report cards based on the 2022-23 school year. Those details include measures in these four priority areas:

- Achievement: proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics on annual state assessments
- Growth: individual student's year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement
- Target Group Outcomes: outcomes for students with the lowest test scores
- On-Track to Graduation: reliable predictors of how successfully students are progressing toward completing their K-12 education

Based on its score, the district, along with each of its schools, receives one of five rating categories, from "Fails to Meet Expectations" to "Significantly Exceeds Expectations," as well as corresponding one to five stars. Below are the overall scores for our district and each school.



Little Chute Area School District

74.7 | Exceeds Expectations



Little Chute High School

60.4 | Meets Expectations



Little Chute Elementary School

79.9 | Exceeds Expectations



Little Chute Career Pathways Academy

77.9 | Exceeds Expectations



Little Chute Intermediate School

76.9 | Exceeds Expectations



Flex Academy

81.3 | Exceeds Expectations



Little Chute Middle School

86.8 | Significantly Exceeds Expectations



If you'd like additional information about our school report card or would like to find additional school performance and accountability data, please visit the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website at <https://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>.

Our Mission

Little Chute Area School District is dedicated to fostering a community of learners in which we meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students.

Our Vision

Little Chute schools will be learning communities in which students express a genuine desire to learn in a welcoming and secure environment. We will challenge all learners to become engineers of their own future by nurturing their creative and intellectual growth. We will provide the launch pad for students to excel in any field of interest by developing the whole child in a diverse and technical society.



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In order to be good stewards of taxpayer funds, a cost-effective bulk mailing service was used for this publication. There are limitations to the service, and we cannot fully match the mailing list with our school district borders without adding significant cost. If you do not live within the Little Chute Area School District and received this publication due to this limitation, we ask for your understanding.



All dates are current as of the time of publication. For the most up-to-date calendar, please visit the Little Chute Area School District website using the QR code above or visiting www.littlechute.k12.wi.us.

Upcoming Events

EARLY RELEASE WEDNESDAYS

All Wednesdays Except

- February 14
- May 29

NO SCHOOL

- February 16
- March 25-29 - Spring Break
- May 27 - Memorial Day

OTHER DATES

- March 7-8: Middle School Musical
- March 18: High School POPS Choral Concert
- March 19: 1st Grade Concert
- April 18: LCCPA Partner Breakfast
- April 27: HS Prom
- May 13: Spring Choral Concert (IS/MS/HS)
- May 15: Senior Awards Night
- May 20: Intermediate/ Middle & High School Band Concerts
- May 22: Performing Arts Awards Night
- May 28: Kindergarten & Flex Academy Graduation
- May 29: High School Graduation
- May 30: Last Day for 4K & Flex Academy
- May 31: Half Day; Last Day for K-12th