



Lake Orion Community Schools

Educating our students for challenges of tomorrow



Students in the award-winning Lake Orion Community School District enjoy an education that prepares them for the challenges of tomorrow, whether it be the next grade level or life after graduation. Our innovative curriculum, talented staff and endless learning opportunities are available to children of all ages, abilities and interests. We recognize each student is unique and combine teaching expertise and modern resources to provide a stimulating, caring and exciting learning environment unmatched in Oakland County.



SCHOOLS

Elementary Level

All of the District's elementary schools – **Blanche Sims, Carpenter, Orion Oaks, Paint Creek, Stadium Drive** and **Webber** – feature identical curriculum that meets standards set by the State of Michigan. They have all been recognized as Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary Schools. Enrollment is open to students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Middle School Level

Lake Orion operates three middle schools for students in sixth through eighth grades – **Oakview, Scripps** and **Waldon**. Student achievement and well-being are stressed during these critical years of learning and growth. All three buildings are Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary Schools.

Lake Orion High School

A world of exciting learning opportunities is available to students in ninth through twelfth grades at **Lake Orion High School**. More than 250 courses are offered. The school features an instructional resource center/library, engineering workshops, multi-level field house, performing arts center and natatorium. Lake Orion High School has been recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School and New American High School. It is accredited by AdvancED.

Learning Options High School

Some students prefer a smaller educational setting. Lake Orion offers **Learning Options High School** for more personalized education support for students who have individual needs not being met in the traditional high school.

Special Education

The District's **Special Education Department** supports and prepares students with special needs to also meet the challenges of tomorrow. Children with social, emotional and learning impairments are enrolled in the program and are integrated into traditional classrooms as much as possible. The U.S. Department of Education recognized our District with a Blue Ribbon Special Emphasis Award in Special Education.

Early Childhood Programs

Infants, toddlers, preschoolers and pre-kindergarten students in Lake Orion's **Early Childhood Programs** flourish in a safe and inviting learning environment. The pre-kindergarten program is carefully aligned with our kindergarten curriculum to assure a solid learning foundation.

DISTRICT AT-A-GLANCE

7,500 Students

438 Educators

**89% hold
Master's Degree or higher**

**86% of educators
have spent at least
five years with the district;
74% more than ten years**



STANDARDIZED TESTING:

M-STEP (grades 3-8)

Lake Orion ranks in the Top 10 among 28 districts in Oakland County in all testing areas: fifth in English, seventh in math, eighth in social studies and ninth in science for 2016. Adjusted for poverty levels, the District's third grade reading proficiency scores were the best overall in Oakland County.

PSAT (9th, 10th grades)

Lake Orion students scored above the County benchmark in both math and evidence-based reading and writing.

Michigan Merit Exam (11th grade)

The District annually outperforms State averages in all tested subject areas.

SAT

2016 Lake Orion graduates scored an average Total SAT Score of 1085, 42 points above the County average and 84 points above the State average.



Innovative Curriculum

Early Literacy Intervention Program

Reading proficiency is the backbone of all learning and Lake Orion’s Early Literacy Intervention Program has received county, state and international recognition for its effectiveness at helping early elementary students improve their reading skills. Today, virtually all of our young readers meet Lake Orion’s and the State of Michigan’s reading proficiency requirements.

District Reading, Writing & Math Workshops

Lake Orion’s reading, writing and math workshops, geared primarily for elementary students, are models for other school districts around Oakland County. Our educators receive special training to work with our students and their families to enhance these skills.

Middle School Concept

Lake Orion is one of the only districts in Michigan that uses the Middle School Concept team-teaching approach in sixth through eighth grades. Validated by national research, this program uses small teams of trained teachers who collaborate and act as advocates for every student during these critical years of learning and development.

Nationally Recognized Advanced Placement (AP) Program

High school students seeking rigorous academic challenges can enroll in our advanced placement courses and then take proficiency tests for college credit. There are more than 20 AP classes offered through Lake Orion’s program, which has been named to the College Board’s AP District Honor Roll.

Early Middle College Program

Our District has partnered with Baker College and the State of Michigan to offer an Early Middle College Program that gives students the opportunity to get a jump on their Associate’s Degree, free of charge, only one year out of high school. Current areas of study include Business Administration and Computer-Aided Design (CAD).

Award-Winning Teachers

Michigan Occupational Special Populations Association, 2017 Professional Award

Michigan’s 2016 Presidential Award Winner for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching, K-6

Michigan World Language Association, “Middle School Teacher of the Year” for 2016

Michigan Association for Media in Education “School Librarian of the Year” for 2016

National Association of Biology Teachers, 2015 “Outstanding Biology Teacher for Michigan”

Michigan Schools Vocal Music Association, 2016 Carolyn F. Leep Award Winner



Endless Opportunities



Career Pathways

Lake Orion High School helps students with similar interests explore and plan for their futures through our career-focused educational curriculum. Classes are broadly grouped into six career pathways:

- **Arts and Communication**
- **Business Management, Marketing and Technology**
- **Engineering/Manufacturing and Industrial Technology**
- **Health Sciences**
- **Human Services**
- **Natural Resources and Agriscience**

Career-Focused Vocational Training

Upperclassmen interested in vocational training can enroll in the Oakland Schools Technical Campus. There, students study culinary arts, automotive mechanics, engineering, computer science, nursing, cosmetology and other careers for a portion of their school days.

High School Pre-Engineering Program

Lake Orion's pre-engineering program provides instruction in advanced engineering principles, robotics and fabrication. Students who complete the multi-year program can pursue industry certificates and two-year technical degrees, as well as traditional degrees from four-year universities. Many of the program's students are members of the school's robotics team. The District's middle schools also have robotics teams.

Recognized Music Programs

Instrumental and vocal music enjoy the spotlight in Lake Orion. Music instruction starts at the elementary level. All

three of our middle schools have award-winning bands, with numerous students selected to All-State ensembles. For several years running, the Dragon marching band has finished among the best in Michigan. The school's wind ensemble and symphonic band earn top honors annually at band festivals across Michigan. Our percussion ensemble earned a World Title. Lake Orion's choirs have received regional and state accolades, including recognition in the State Honor Choir Program.

Comprehensive Art Program

The District's art program starts in elementary school and grows at the middle school level. The high school's art program features more than 20 classes, covering a variety of artistic mediums. Our talented artists have the opportunity to explore and refine their artistic skills, with their award-winning work showcased in local, county and state art competitions.

Award-Winning Student Media

LO-AM, the high school's daily news broadcast, and Dragon yearbook staff have won hundreds of journalism awards from the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association. This includes the coveted Spartan Award, the highest recognition in the state.

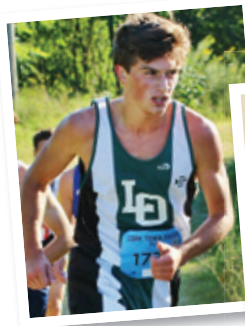
International Academy

Our District sends a number of students each year to the renowned, tuition-free International Academy in Bloomfield Hills. There, students are immersed in a challenging, academic setting with a global focus. Selection into the program is by lottery.



Proud Student-Athletes

Hard work and dedication are the cornerstones of the District's athletic program, which features 45 sports and 105 athletic teams at the middle schools and high school. Our student-athletes compete in the Oakland Activities Association, regarded as one of the most competitive athletic conferences in the state. The average GPA for Lake Orion's athletes is 3.265, with many student-athletes taking college-prep and advanced coursework.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Long-Term Stability

Lake Orion Community Schools has made a number of operational changes in recent years to achieve a balanced budget and assure the District's long-term stability. Most recently, Lake Orion's Board of Education made the decision to consolidate buildings and redistrict the attendance boundaries to improve operational efficiencies.

Stabilization of Fund Balance Equity

The District is committed to a ten percent fund balance equity policy, which provides much-needed financial cash-flow flexibility. The District continues to work towards this goal in a fiscally responsible manner.

Building Assets

The successful passage of a voter-approved building and site sinking fund is providing the District with financial resources to make a number of much-needed renovations and repairs to the buildings and grounds over the next several years.

Bond Refinancing

More than \$134 million in voter-approved school bond loans have been refinanced by the District to date, taking advantage of a favorable interest rate environment. This will save taxpayers \$16 million in interest and principal cost avoidance.

Program Grants

District administrators and staff members regularly pursue grants from a variety of sources to augment state funding for a number of programs. For example, the District has received more than \$216,000 from the Michigan Department

of Education to support its reading intervention program at the elementary school level.

Financial Accolades

Lake Orion Community Schools was recognized by the State's Department of Education as one of 58 districts to attain above average, "notably successful" ratings in the Michigan Finance Study that evaluated revenues and expenditures of school districts meeting strict performance standards.



Orion Oaks Elementary School



Waldon Middle School



Lake Orion High School



For more information, visit:

www.lakeorion.k12.mi.us, or contact our administrative offices at 248-693-5400

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Lake Orion Community Schools • 315 N. Lapeer Street • Lake Orion, MI 48362