

Lapwai School District



*Superintendent's
Weekly Update*

Friday, September 4, 2026

Celebrations & Pictures of Wildcat Scholars & the Dedicated Staff Who Serve Them





Lapwai School District Start Times

Lapwai Elementary School: (208) 843-2960

8:15 Students Collected

8:20 Instruction Begins

Lapwai Middle-High School: (208) 843-2241

8:04 First Bell

8:07 Tardy Bell

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MATTERS - EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

Construction continues for the new Career and Technical Education Center at Lapwai Middle-High School. Please join us in celebrating the support of those who have assisted us in identifying a Nez Perce name for the new building. qe'ciyew'yew' Thomas Gregory and the Nez Perce Language Program, the Circle of Elders, and the Nez Perce Tribe Education Department.

Place of Helping Each Other

piëiwapayatanwaas



The name reflects the caring assistance the Superintendent received to make this objective a reality including the Nez Perce Tribe, Lapwai School District Board of Trustees, Idaho Career Ready Students Program, R & M Steel, Arnzen Building Construction, and Castellaw Kom Architects. This truly has been a journey of mutual assistance and helping each other.

Lapwai Middle-High School 21st Century Community Learning Center Afterschool Program



September 28 - Details to Follow!

A Wildcat thank you to the Idaho State Department of Education for selecting Lapwai Middle-High School for a Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program Award. This is the same program which has supported the successful and engaging afterschool program at Lapwai Elementary School.

Program scheduled to begin September 28!

Students can expect engaging Mathematics, English, Arts, Music, and STEM!

Please expect additional details to follow!

The mission of the Lapwai School District includes, "Together, we ensure all students will reach their full potential. The 21st Century Community Learning Center at Lapwai Middle-High School will be a natural extension of this mission with visions to include:

1. A bridge between academic success and cultural identity
2. A safe, engaging space where students are known, supported, and inspired
3. A pathway to re-engagement for students who are struggling, behind, or disconnected
4. A community-centered extension of learning grounded in Nez Perce Principles, language, and traditions

2026-2027 School Attendance Matters Challenge!

Weekly Drawings: Each week a student has perfect attendance and no tardies their name will automatically be entered into a drawing. Prizes include rewards from Mana Ti'míne, Happy Day Restaurants, and Orchards Lanes. Every Friday through November 6th we will award Elementary and Middle-High winners. They will be featured in the Superintendent's Weekly Update, Lapwai School District Facebook page, and on our Main Street digital sign. If you miss a day of school, you have the following week to try again! Every week is a new chance to win!

Grade Level Challenge: The grade level with the highest average daily attendance through Friday, November 6th will earn the class celebration of their choice!

Grand Prize Winners: We will also be raffling 3 Triple Play Raptor Reef Indoor Water Park admissions. Grand Prizes will be awarded in both schools!

Thank You Rogers Toyota: Every 5th grade Wildcat Scholar with perfect attendance the entire 2026-2027 school year will be presented with a free bicycle through the Rogers Toyota PASS Program: Perfect Attendance Spells Success.



Request Support: Email ATTENDANCE@LAPWAI.ORG to learn more or request support in removing barriers to regular and punctual attendance.



Be Safe 'ee 'ima'iyano'



SAFETY TOGETHER

As we welcome the 2026-2027 academic year, please join us in ensuring the safety of our students remains the highest priority. Thank you for taking a moment to review these important safety updates as we work together to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for every student:

- **FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS, THE USE OR POSSESSION OF ELECTRONIC SCOOTERS AND OTHER PERSONAL MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION DEVICES IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.** These devices present significant safety concerns due to limited supervision, the age of students, and increased traffic around school entrances and dismissal areas.
- **ON ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL GROUNDS, PERSONAL MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION DEVICES MUST BE WALKED OR CARRIED.** This expectation is in place to help ensure safe arrival and dismissal procedures and to protect all students, staff, and families.
- **PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION DEVICES ARE NOT PERMITTED INSIDE THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND MUST BE STORED OUTSIDE IN AN APPROPRIATE LOCATION.** The school is not responsible for devices that are lost, stolen, or damaged while on school property.
- **STUDENTS WHO OPERATE ELECTRONIC SCOOTERS OR OTHER PERSONAL MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION IN AN UNSAFE OR INAPPROPRIATE MANNER WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM BRINGING THESE DEVICES ONTO SCHOOL GROUNDS.**

DR. DAVID M. AIKEN

Lapwai School District Superintendent
(208) 843-2622 • daiken@Lapwai.org

Lapwai School District Annual Fall Districtwide Meeting

Monday, August 24, 2026



Annual Fall Districtwide Meeting

qe'ciyew'yew'

Please join us in celebrating those who joined us to welcome staff to the 2026-2027 academic year!



*Sam Penney
Nez Perce Tribe
Chairman*



*Joyce McFarland
Nez Perce Tribe
Education Department*



*Alicia Wheeler
Nez Perce Tribe
Education Department*

Annual Fall Districtwide Meeting

Please join us in celebrating the generous support of the Nez Perce Tribe with Local Education Program Fund awards. Their caring assistance included \$54,000 in grant support for objectives with relevance to Nez Perce culture and history



On behalf of our students, staff, and the Lapwai School District Board of Trustees, please accept our gratitude for your continued support with Local Education Program Funds. These resources will make a lasting impact on student success and expand opportunities for our learners. We look forward to featuring these projects in our newsletters and social media, celebrating your support of our Wildcat Scholars.

qe'ciyew'yew'

Special Education

Assessment Technology	\$5,000
Culturally Responsive Supports	\$9,500

Lapwai Middle-High School

Middle-School Leadership	\$10,000
Assemblies, Incentives,	\$5,000
Environmental Print	
Cultural Arts and Activities	\$9,500
College and Career Readiness	\$10,000

Lapwai Elementary School

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Supplies	\$5,000
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Annual Fall Districtwide Meeting

Wildcat Way Award:

Rebecca Lehman

A Wildcat thank you to the Idaho Office of Drug Policy for their award of a Substance Prevention & Treatment Block Grant. Their support provides recognition for community partners modeling the Wildcat Way who are substance free with respectful, responsible, and safe behavior. We were proud to honor Rebecca Lehman, Indian Child Welfare Director. She is a champion and a courageous advocate for those we serve. When our students, families, or schools need her support, we know we can count on Rebecca to respond, stand beside us, and help find a way forward.

Please join us in thanking Rebecca!



Annual Fall Districtwide Meeting

Teacher Helper of the Year:

Mrs. Jenny Williams

Mrs. Williams was honored by Nez Perce STEP as Teacher Helper of the Year.

Congratulations, Mrs. Williams! Thank you for your big heart for Lapwai students! We would like to thank Joyce McFarland and Alicia Wheeler for joining us to honor this deserving educator!



Annual Fall Districtwide Meeting

Dr. Arthur Taylor, Jr. Culturally Responsive Teacher of the Year: Ms. Rye Hewett

Ms. Hewett was honored by Nez Perce STEP as the Dr. Arthur Taylor Jr. Culturally-Responsive Teacher of the Year.

Congratulations, Ms. Hewett! Thank you for your big heart for Lapwai students! We would like to thank Joyce McFarland and Alicia Wheeler for joining us to honor this deserving teacher!



Spring Student Success Assemblies

*Please join us in congratulating those
celebrated for the Wildcat Way this
spring prior to summer break!*



Wildcat Way Award: Taricia Moliga

A Wildcat thank you to the Idaho Office of Drug Policy for their award of a Substance Prevention & Treatment Block Grant. Their support provides recognition for community partners modeling the Wildcat Way who are substance free with respectful, responsible, and safe behavior. We were proud to honor Taricia Moliga of Social Services and Mana Ti'míne. She is among our greatest cheerleaders and consistently first in line when we need support. From fundraising to parent volunteers, we can always count on Taricia's caring assistance.

Please join us in thanking Taricia!



Wildcat Way Awards

Jayda
Sonneck



Be Respectful
qa'anno' 'ee

Colt
Greene



Be Responsible
timmiyunin' 'ee wic'éeyu'

Kalena
Miles



Be Safe
'ee 'ima'iyano'

Jereese
McCormack



Staff Qualifications

School districts receiving Title I funds are required to notify parents they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher(s). We are prepared to celebrate our highly qualified staff and share their accomplishments with you on request.

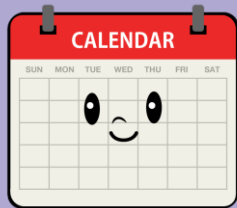
As a parent of a student attending a school receiving federal program funds, you have the right to know:

- Is my child's teacher licensed to teach the grades and subject(s) assigned?
- Is my child's teacher teaching with a provisional license, meaning the state waived requirements for my child's teacher?
- What is the college major of my child's teacher?
- What degree or degrees does my child's teacher hold?

To request the state qualifications for your child's teacher or instructional aide, please contact David Aiken, Superintendent, at (208) 843-2622. If you would like more information about your child's school, please feel free to contact our dedicated principals:

Teri Wagner, Lapwai Elementary School:
Georgia Sobotta, Lapwai Middle-High School:

(208) 843-2960
(208) 843-2241



Parent
Portal





The Lapwai Middle-High School Native Culture and Language Team continues to collaborate on an action plan for the indicator of, "The curriculum of all grade levels includes lessons on the accomplishments of Native Americans." Indigenous role model resources have been added to the Native Culture and Language section of the website at Lapwai.org. The resources are encouraged for use during English-Language Arts or Reading instruction districtwide.



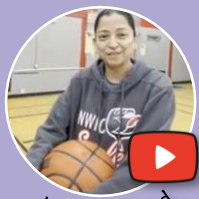
Mary Golda Ross



Nicole Mann



Levi McCormack



Angela Picard



Andre Picard



Janee' Kassanavoid



Derek Red Arrow Frank



Joy Harjo



Bill Picard



Chief White Bird



Chief Lookingglass



Chief Joseph



Jim Thorpe



Cheri Madsen



Pronunciation

piěiwapayatanwaas



A Place of Mutual Assistance – Helping Each Other



NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER

Participating school districts are Asotin, Clarkston, Lapwai, and Lewiston



CLICK HERE



VISIT [DAILYFLY.COM](https://www.dailyfly.com) FOR MORE INFORMATION

Title IX-A: Information for Parents & Families

If you or your family are in a temporary or inadequate living situation due to a loss of housing, we can help.

If you are living in any of the following situations:

- Shared housing with other friends or families
- Runaway/homeless youth, and students who are not living with a parent or legally court-appointed guardian
- Temporary or transitional housing
- Emergency and domestic violence shelters
- Motels or hotels
- Campgrounds or inadequate trailer homes
- Substandard housing (homes without heat, water, or working appliances)
- Cars, abandoned buildings, parks, the streets or other public spaces

We may be able to help you or your child:

- Enroll in school
- Remain in your school if you move to another area
- With transportation to and from school
- Access to meal programs
- Social referrals
- Other services

Title IX-A Education Liaison

David Aiken

daiken@Lapwai.org

(208) 843-2622

Title IX-A: Information for Parents & Families

What are your rights under the law?

You or your McKinney-Vento eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending the school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference. **If the school district believes that the school you select is not in the best interest of your children, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision*
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs. Children with special education needs between the ages of 3 and 21 are eligible to receive special needs services. If you believe your child may be eligible, contact your school or the district Special Education office.

Title IX-A Education Liaison

David Aiken

daiken@Lapwai.org

(208) 843-2622