School Narrative

This section allows schools and districts to share highlights, achievements, and other important information about programs, activities, and services that are offered in their own words. If there are questions about the information provided in the narrative section, please contact your school directly.

Highlights:

- Cherokee offers 22 Advanced Placements courses.
- Cherokee’s chapter of DECA had 100 regional qualifiers out of our 103 members. 37 students advanced to the NJ State competition with 4 earning a spot as a NJ Top Finalists.
- Twelve Cherokee students were honored by the National Merit Scholar Program.

Mission, Vision, Theme:

Cherokee High School serves the community of Evesham in Burlington County. Cherokee’s North/South layout provides students with the distinct advantage of a large high school with two smaller learning communities. This arrangement allows Cherokee to join in the LRHSD mission to maintain high expectations while providing students with unlimited educational experiences, which exceed the NJCCS, and integrate technology while working with our families and community.

Awards, Recognition, Accomplishments:

Cherokee was proud to be designated a No Place for Hate school for the 6th consecutive years by the Anti-Defamation League. The Cherokee marching band was included in the Group IVA State Champions last year. 18 students earned medals at the Russian Olympiad. Cherokee students have also been chosen to complete internships with the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine and participate in the Boys and Girls State Delegates.
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### Courses, Curriculum, Instruction:

Through more than 241 course offerings, 24 AP courses and 66 College Acceleration Program courses, 61 at Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC) and 5 at Rowan University (RU), complemented by summer enrichment programs, the Lenape District offers academic tracks to meet every student's needs. In the 2017-18 school year, 1373 students district-wide applied for RU and RCBC dual credit; on average, each student earned 7.47 college credits. [https://www.lrhsd.org/Page/679](https://www.lrhsd.org/Page/679)

### Sports and Athletics:

Sports Offered: Baseball (Boys), Basketball (Boys & Girls), Bowling (Boys & Girls), Cross Country (Boys & Girls), Field Hockey (Girls), Football (Boys), Golf (Boys & Girls), Gymnastics (Girls), Lacrosse (Boys & Girls), Soccer (Boys & Girls), Softball (Girls), Swimming (Boys & Girls), Tennis (Boys & Girls), Track and Field - Spring (Boys & Girls), Track and Field - Winter (Boys & Girls), Volleyball (Girls), Wrestling (Boys)

Cherokee boasts of 129 Varsity athletes who have achieved a 3.65 GPA or higher. On the athletic fields and courts, Cherokee has won nine conference championships and one SJ sectional championship. In addition, the Cherokee Marching Band earned back-to-back Group IVA State Championships in 2016 and 2017.

### Clubs and Activities:

Cherokee offers 93 extracurricular activities. These clubs promote school pride, community service, and learning. Additionally, each year Cherokee's senior class takes part in the Senior Day of Service. This is an opportunity for all 500+ seniors to go out into the community and provide a variety of services to schools, parks, and recreational areas to name a few.
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#### Before and After School Programs:

Cherokee High School offers tutoring (A.I.M) afterschool and during lunch. A.I.M tutors are National Honor Society students who assist struggling students in a variety of subjects. Cherokee also offers access to the weight room after school to promote and sponsor students' health and wellbeing.

#### Staff and Professional Learning:

All of the LRHSD teachers are trained by the in-house Research for Better Teaching (RBT) trainers. RBT offers professional development, which takes place during a teacher’s first three years at Cherokee, with refreshers offered at various intervals. Cherokee teachers are also trained in Understanding by Design (UbD). Cherokee provides its teachers with an uninterrupted common planning time, which allows for greater collaboration and collegiality.

#### Postsecondary Information:

During the 2017-18 school year, 1,373 students earned 10,061 college credits through the dual credit program. LRHSD is proud to offer the PSAT to all students in grades 9, 10, and 11, as the district believes that opportunity better prepares them for the SAT. LRHSD’s success as a high-achieving district is exemplified by its 96.1% graduation rate, its SAT scores consistently above state and national averages, and its 91% of graduates attending over 280 colleges and universities.
Student Supports and Services:

Cherokee’s Intervention and Referral Services are designed to assist students experiencing learning, behavior or health difficulties. Cherokee offers a complete range of programs for students who have been determined to be “Eligible for Special Education and Related Services,” including resource center programs, inclusion, and self-contained programs.

Student Health and Wellness:

Cherokee provides a nutritious breakfast and lunch throughout the school day. All students, regardless of grade, take part in a physical education class.

Parent and Community Involvement:

The Cherokee High School hosts 16 booster clubs that support and promote Cherokee athletics and activities. Parents are able to access students’ grades and information through the Genesis Grading Portal or through the LRHSD app.
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Climate Surveys:

Is a Climate Survey Used: Yes; Who is surveyed: Students, Parents, Teachers

All students are given a survey regarding the school climate at the end of every school year. The survey focuses on the school’s Core Values of Accountability, Integrity, and Respect (AIR). The results are shared administratively and are part of the protocol for the Middle States Excellence by Design Accreditation. Cherokee has seen an increase in student ownership and empathy towards others as the students’ progress from 9th to 12th grade.

Facilities:

Cherokee High School was opened on a 71-acre site in Evesham Township in September 1975. In the early 1990s a construction and renovation project was completed to meet the educational needs of the growing Evesham Township community. In December 1997, voters approved a referendum for the construction of Cherokee South to house students in grades 9-10 and the Lenape District Performing Arts Center. Cherokee is up to date with modern technology needed to support the school curriculum.

School Safety:

The Safety and Security of all LRHSD students and staff is a top priority which is evidenced by the following security initiatives already in place at all LRHSD schools. Police officers with marked vehicles are assigned to each school reinforcing high visibility police presence. All LRHSD schools have Security Staff (several retired Law Enforcement Officers) assigned to assist with maintaining a safe school environment. All exterior doors are secured and locked during the school day. Main office vestibules were constructed to limit direct entry into the school. All schools are equipped with 24/7 interior and exterior surveillance systems. Lockdown buttons are installed at all schools to initiate and expedite lockdown procedures. Portable radios are assigned to key personnel to expedite communications in the event of an emergency. In 2018 LRHSD was approved for a $3,438,000 security grant to enhance and develop new safety initiatives for all LRHSD schools.
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Technology and STEM:

The LRHSD has a variety of technology and STEM opportunities for students. A wide-range of technology courses offered include 3 year Television Broadcasting path with a 4th year option to intern in the District Television Studio. Technical courses expose students to industry-standard software. An Automotive shop at Seneca and Cherokee and a Metal Shop at Lenape High School. The LRHSD has also partnered with Project Lead the Way a nationally recognized STEM program to offer a pre-engineering pathway where students work collaboratively in a cohort to take an engineering elective each year of their high school experience. This will expose them to different facets of a STEM related career. The LRHSD has two district Robotics teams which compete locally and nationally. Members of the LRHSD Robotics teams report that the project based problem solving design of each challenge deepens their understanding of the concepts behind the designs necessary to compete with other schools.
Cherokee has served Evesham Township since opening its doors in 1975. Cherokee, along with the entire LRHSD, operates using a 57-minute class period, rotating schedule. The rotating schedule has a morning wheel and an afternoon wheel with a 50-minute community Lunch and Learn period in the middle. This schedule more closely mirrors what Cherokee students will experience in college, as classes rotate and drop off within a 4-day cycle. Important academic, athletic, and extracurricular information can be found on the Cherokee Website or the Cherokee Facebook page. For the most up to date information, you can follow @Cherokee_HS or any of our numerous club, team, and activity Twitter accounts. Cherokee High School, as well as the entire district, is proud to participate in a Cyber-Safety Coalition. The Cyber-Safety Coalition informs students, parents and stakeholders about the importance of being a responsible and safe online citizen who can excel in this growing fast paced, digitally connected community. Cherokee High School is proud to host a Technology Student Association (TSA) for students. Cherokee High School's chapter focuses on completing various technology projects during their meetings throughout the year. Cherokee's TSA also focuses on completing projects for the New Jersey TSA State Competition held every spring at The College of New Jersey. It is recommended that students are enrolled in technology education classes at Cherokee High School.