



Intergenerational S C H O O L S

2023- 2024 Annual Report

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INTRODUCTION

Where children thrive and community grows

Dear Friends,

The 2023-2024 school year marked 24 years since the first Intergenerational School opened in Cleveland, the fifth school year since Covid-19 disrupted education across the globe, and was also my oldest daughter's senior year at HSName, where she graduated with [whatever] after attending Near West Intergenerational School through eighth grade. Violet is one of X,XXX who have found their voice and place in the community, learned to love learning and set their sights on bright futures through our schools—and this family milestone was a poignant reminder to me of the importance and value of our schools for every student and family who attend.

PERSPECTIVES + PERFORMANCE

In this year's report, you'll hear from Learning Partners who have been helping children thrive and community grow for years—sometimes decades! You'll also hear from parents, teachers and students about the joyful, creative, individual and sometimes messy work of developing a love of learning across our schools.

And while our approach remains as outside-the-box as it has always been, we continue to outperform many of our neighboring schools in academic progress and achievement, as you'll read in each school's By the Numbers report. Our students are thriving, and we have our entire school community to thank—the families, teachers, learning partners, board members, students and staff who embody our mission and work every day to grow.

A YEAR OF TRANSITION

The school year closed out with a critical decision and a significant change for our school network: On June 11, the boards of The Intergenerational School – East and Lakeshore Intergenerational School voted unanimously to merge, making 2023-2024 the last school year for LIS. With key staff vacancies, low enrollment and preliminary state test scores showing signs of the strain, our board recognized the urgent need to bolster our school community by bringing these two schools together. School leaders worked diligently to help teachers and students transition to TIS-East, where we can continue to provide high quality, individualized and innovated K-8 education.

LOOKING AHEAD

And while this report covers our schools' activities and achievements in 2023-2024, we cannot end this monumental year on a cliffhanger. I'm happy to share that TIS-East welcomed XX teachers and XX students from LIS on the first day of the 2024-2025 school year, affirming the difficult choice was the right one. We're stronger together—and continuing to grow our community so our students can thrive. To learn more about what is ahead for the Intergenerational Schools, please see the last page of this report for an overview of our strategic plan.

Thank you,



Brooke King

CEO, Intergenerational Schools

OUR MISSION

The Intergenerational Schools connect, create, and guide a multi-generational community of lifelong learners and spirited citizens as they strive for academic excellence.

OUR VISION

The Intergenerational Schools are a top choice in public education for Greater Cleveland families. We foster joyful and independent academic and social-emotional learning that allows students and learning partners to excel both individually and together in one equitable community. As innovative and progressive educators, we are catalysts and collaborators in improving public community. As innovative and progressive educators, we are catalysts and collaborators in improving public education.

About the Intergenerational Schools

Our award-winning and nationally recognized model is 100% focused on fostering student achievement and growth in a multi-generational environment.

The Intergenerational Schools are an award-winning **network of K-8 public charter schools** in Cleveland where children learn developmentally (at their own pace) based on mastery, and in a diverse and supportive community environment.

Our schools have **small, multi-age classes** that allow children to receive an individualized education based on what each child needs next in their learning. In this setting, students have the opportunity to be both a teacher and a learner.

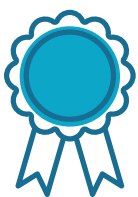
Older adults from the community serve as **Learning Partners**, who help students develop a love of reading and learning. They share stories and experiences together, play math games, and forge **positive intergenerational relationships** together. Each class also ‘adopts’ the residents at area senior facilities. They visit and partake in mutual

learning activities. These experiences help develop valuable social emotional skills and help to enforce the learning in the classroom.

The Intergens are nonprofit, public charter schools, which means any student can attend for free, there is no selection process, and the schools provide Special Education and other student services required by law. Our performance is measured alongside traditional district schools through the same state tests, but the charter model allows us the flexibility to innovate.

Since 2000, we have been challenging the status quo in elementary education, and our approach has been recognized in Cleveland and internationally. Our students go on to high quality public and private high schools with the skills they need to succeed and thrive in school and beyond.

Community Schools of Quality Designation



We are proud to say all three of our schools were designated as Community Schools of Quality by the Ohio Department of Education in 2023-2024.

The schools received higher performance index scores (measuring overall student achievement)

than the local district on the two most recent report cards. In addition, the schools achieved 4-star value-added ratings (measuring student growth as being more than one full year in a year’s time). These two measures, along with being sponsored, or accredited, by a high quality sponsor, qualified them for this distinction.

Story Headline Goes Right Here.

Students at TIS hosted their second highly anticipated annual Market Day, transforming their learning environment into a bustling marketplace. The event offered students an opportunity to showcase their creativity, talents, entrepreneurial spirit, and financial literacy by developing, marketing, and selling a variety of products. This hands-on experience allowed them to engage in real-world business practices, from pricing and promotion to customer service, fostering skills they will carry well beyond the classroom.

The students' hard work paid off, generating an impressive total of over \$1,400 in combined sales. Classes contributed unique ideas, creating a diverse array of goods.

True to the school's mission of fostering both boundless learning and a sense of spirited citizenship, the students donated 10% of their profits—amounting to \$140—to two meaningful causes. This year's recipients were St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and the Do It For James Foundation, organizations committed to life-changing care and support for children and youth. Market Day 2024 not only reinforced our students' learning but also directly demonstrated how they make a tangible impact on the world around them.



Market Day has become a beloved tradition at TIS, exemplifying the school's commitment to experiential learning and character development. Throughout the preparation process, students worked collaboratively, refining their business plans, assigning roles, and problem-solving in real time. Teachers guided them in setting realistic goals, tracking expenses, and understanding the importance of customer engagement. These essential life skills, integrated into the project, empowered students to connect classroom concepts to meaningful, hands-on experiences.

The success of Market Day 2024 reflects not only the students' dedication but also the strong support of the school community. Families, staff, and other members of the IG community eagerly participated, contributing to the vibrant atmosphere that made the event so special. Beyond the numbers and products sold, the day fostered a sense of accomplishment and joy among the students, instilling confidence in their abilities. As they look ahead to future Market Days, students are already reflecting on what they learned and brainstorming ways to expand their businesses and deepen their impact.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The Intergenerational School (TIS - East) is transforming the educational experience for students and families. For over 20 years, TIS – East has been a leader in K-8 education with an approach like no other public school. Our students are curious learners surrounded by innovative learning opportunities, making TIS – East a top performing school and a joyful place to learn. The Intergenerational School is part of an award-winning network of public charter schools in Cleveland that help children learn at their own pace in a diverse and supportive community environment. **The Intergenerational Schools have small, multi-age/multi-grade classes, individually paced learning, a nationally recognized educational model, and Intergenerational Learning Partners from the community to support every child.**

2023-2024 School Year By the Numbers

TOTAL ENROLLMENT **AVERAGE CLASS SIZE**

200 **##**

2023-2024 PRINCIPAL
Dr. Mario Clopton

OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM:

Bedford	1.0%
Cleveland	82.5%
Cleveland Heights	3.5%
East Cleveland	1.5%
Euclid	0.5%
Garfield Heights	5.5%
Maple Heights	4.0%
South Euclid	0.5%
Warrensville Heights	1.0%

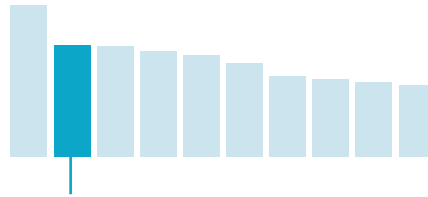
STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS*

White	0.5%
Black	93.5%
Asian	0.5%
Native American	0%
Hispanic	3.0%
Multiracial	2.5%
Students with Disabilities	17%
Economic Disadvantage	72%

*As of the last day of the school year.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Overall Rating



TIS-East outperformed 8 of the 9 neighborhood public schools in achievement.

71%

TIS-East students outscored their peers at 9 neighborhood public schools 71% of the time.

FINANCIAL DATA**

Income

State	\$ 2,932,530
Federal	1,156,082
Tax Distribution	13,456
Philanthropy	-
Other	196,000

Total Income **\$ 4,298,068**

Expenses

Salaries + Benefits	\$ 2,279,159
Purchased Services	1,222,508
Supplies & Materials	165,445
Other	53,928

Total Expenses **\$ 3,721,040**

Surplus/(Deficit) **\$ 577,029**

**Unaudited

SCHOOL BOARD

Stacy Miller
CHAIR

Danielle Clark
VICE CHAIR

Joanna Lopez-Inman Esq
SECRETARY, GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Lynn Carpenter
FINANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL, CHAIR

Bob Nicolay
GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL, CHAIR

Richaun Bunton
EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL, CHAIR

Steven Lake, EdD
SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE, FRIENDS OF INTERGENERATIONAL SCHOOL

Brad Norton
BOARD MEMBER

SPONSOR STATEMENT

The Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West (ESCLEW) served as sponsor for The Intergenerational School during the 2023-2024 school year. ESCLEW monitored the school's academic and fiscal performance, as well as organization and operation of the school, and determined that the school was overall compliant.

CONTACT THE SCHOOL

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NEAR WEST INTERGENERATIONAL SCHOOL

A Retired Teacher Returns to the Classroom

Learning Partners play a vital role in intergenerational learning at Intergenerational Schools. Julie Rae, a retired Lakewood City Schools teacher, is one of many volunteers who work as Learning Partners with Near West students, offering one-on-one academic practice to complement classroom instruction, peer learning and the support they get at home to encourage a love of learning.

Julie shared how she helps students build confidence, recalling moments when students approach her shyly, their heads down. “I remind them learning is tough, and mistakes are how we grow,” she explained. By tailoring her approach to each student, Julie helps them understand concepts in a way that works for them. As confidence builds, she encourages them: “Look! You thought you couldn’t do it, but you did!”

She believes this individual attention is the program’s greatest asset. “It’s a chance to reteach and correct errors privately—something that’s

hard to do in a classroom,” she said, adding that many students crave this focused support.

She said Learning Partners would have been a welcome addition to her own classroom, supporting personalized relationships that nurture both academic and emotional growth.

Julie’s work helps cultivate the school’s culture of support, encouraging students to believe in themselves and persevere. Her passion for guiding students academically and emotionally embodies the heart of the Learning Partner program, showing how dedicated attention can make a lasting impact.

“I can be another adult who encourages students to believe in themselves, to try hard, and to persevere despite challenges.”

- Julie Rae

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

In 2011, a group of parents seeking a high-quality public school for their children helped bring this award-winning educational model to Ohio City. Today, Near West Intergenerational School is a top performing school whose students are excelling in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. Near West is part of an award-winning network of public charter schools in Cleveland that help children learn at their own pace in a diverse and supportive community environment. **The Intergenerational Schools have small, multi-age/multi-grade classes, individually paced learning, a nationally recognized educational model, and Intergenerational Learning Partners from the community to support every child.**

2023-2024 School Year By the Numbers

TOTAL ENROLLMENT **AVERAGE CLASS SIZE**

211 **##**

2023-2024 PRINCIPAL
April Maimone

OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM:

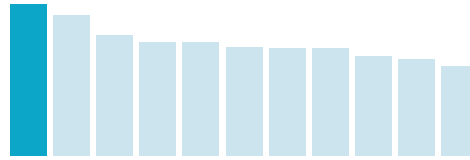
Bay Village	0.9%
Brooklyn	1.9%
Cleveland	82.0%
Cleveland Heights	0.9%
Elyria	1.4%
Euclid	0.9%
Fairview Park	1.4%
Garfield Heights	1.9%
Lakewood	0.9%
Maple Heights	0.5%
Newburg Heights	0.5%
North Olmsted	1.9%
Oberlin	0.5%
Parma	1.4%
Parma Heights	0.9%
Twinsburg	1.9%

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

White	35.5%
Black	32.2%
Asian	0.5%
Native American	0.5%
Hispanic	24.6%
Multiracial	0.0%
Students with Disabilities	20%
Economic Disadvantage	64%

*As of the last day of the school year.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE



Near West outperformed all 10 of the closest peer schools across the state performance index—as well as gap closing and achievement.



Near West's overall rating is the highest among all district and charter schools in the city of Cleveland.

Overall Rating
★★★★★

FINANCIAL DATA**

Income	
State	\$ 1,950,145
Federal	547,318
Tax Distribution	192,677
Philanthropy	-
Other	158,821
Total Income	\$ 2,848,961
Expenses	
Salaries + Benefits	1,294,674
Purchased Services	979,059
Supplies & Materials	116,518
Other	38,552
Total Expenses	\$ 2,428,803
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 420,157

**Unaudited

SCHOOL BOARD

- Stacy Miller**
CHAIR
- Danielle Clark**
VICE CHAIR
- Joanna Lopez-Inman Esq**
SECRETARY, GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL
- Lynn Carpenter**
FINANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL, CHAIR
- Bob Nicolay**
GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL, CHAIR
- Richaun Bunton**
EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL, CHAIR
- Carolyn Wald**
SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE, FRIENDS OF INTERGENERATIONAL SCHOOL
- Brad Norton**
BOARD MEMBER

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Near West Intergenerational School is proudly sponsored by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. For more information please visit www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/13633

CONTACT THE SCHOOL

3805 Terrett Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113
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facebook.com/IGSchools
instagram.com/_igschools





LAKESHORE INTERGENERATIONAL SCHOOL

Learning Partners Build Community Across the Years

While 2023-2024 is a bittersweet milestone in our school network's history as the last year of operation for Lakeshore International School, the year was filled with joyful community building, individualized learning and inspiring experiences for students, staff and volunteers. One person who has been deeply engaged with the Intergens community at Lakeshore and beyond is Elizabeth Levert, one of our longest-serving and most dedicated Learning Partners.

Newly retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 2002, Elizabeth Levert had just finished an exercise class at Fairhill Center when she noticed a call for volunteers on a bulletin board. She began volunteering at The Intergenerational School as a Reading Mentor and has been with the school ever since.

Elizabeth has been a constant presence, volunteering weekly and building strong connections with students by learning about their lives and encouraging them to explore reading at home. She was the first Learning

Partner at Lakeshore when it opened in 2014 and continued to volunteer there through the 2023-2024 school year.

When practicing reading with young students, Elizabeth prioritizes relationship-building over perfection, allowing children to write their names, ask questions, and engage with the story.

"Being a Learning Partner does my heart good," said Elizabeth. With her own grandchildren in Oklahoma, Elizabeth treasures her time with students. "It is amazing the change in the students from the beginning of the year to the end of the year—how they have grown!"

As one of the longest-serving Learning Partners, Elizabeth's kindness and passion for reading have positively impacted countless students over the past two decades.

"Being a Learning Partner does my heart good."

- Elizabeth Levert

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Lakeshore Intergenerational School (LIS) is a public charter school in Cleveland's Collinwood neighborhood. This growing school educates students in grades K-8. Students thrive in a diverse community of intergenerational learners. Lakeshore is part of an award-winning network of public charter schools in Cleveland that help children learn at their own pace in a diverse and supportive community environment. **The Intergenerational Schools have small, multi-age/multi-grade classes, individually paced learning, a nationally recognized educational model, and Intergenerational Learning Partners from the community to support every child.**

2023-2024 School Year By the Numbers

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

114

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

##

2023-2024 PRINCIPAL

Curtis Walker

OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM:

Cleveland	77.2%
Cleveland Heights	1.8%
Euclid	18.4%
Garfield Heights	0.9%
South Euclid	0.9%

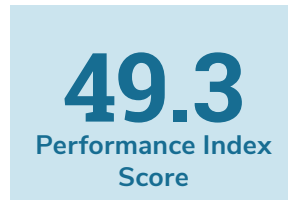
STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS*

White	4.4%
Black	94.7%
Asian	0%
Native American	0%
Hispanic	0%
Multiracial	0%

Students with Disabilities	20%
Economic Disadvantage	100%

*As of the last day of the school year.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE



Gap Closing



Highlights

Students outperformed the nearest neighborhood school in gap closing, performance and achievement benchmarks.

FINANCIAL DATA**

Income

State	\$ 1,950,145
Federal	547,318
Tax Distribution	192,677
Philanthropy	-
Other	158,821
Total Income	\$ 2,848,961

Expenses

Salaries + Benefits	1,294,674
Purchased Services	979,059
Supplies & Materials	116,518
Other	38,552
Total Expenses	\$ 2,428,803

Surplus/(Deficit) \$ 420,157

**Unaudited

SCHOOL BOARD

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CHAIR, FINANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

Stacy Miller

VICE CHAIR, EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

Joanna Lopez-Inman Esq

SECRETARY, GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

Richaun Bunton

EDUCATION & ENROLLMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

Karen Chambers

HR ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

Danielle Clark

FINANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

Mark Olson

FACILITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Lakeshore Intergenerational School is proudly sponsored by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. For more information please visit www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/13633

CONTACT THE SCHOOL

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Looking Forward

OUR 2024-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Each year, we revisit and refine our strategic plan to build on past progress, adapt to change and ensure we are continually working toward our vision. The four main goals below were set in 2023, with our strategic approach evolving each school year. We are encouraged by the progress to date on each of these goals and will continue to work toward target outcomes to support boundless learning and strong community through our work.

Goal 1

Every student will experience a high-quality, developmental, multi-age education in a social and emotionally safe environment centered on intergenerational learning opportunities.

Target Outcome: Assessments show growth and achievement.

NWEA assessments show school-wide growth at 50th percentile+, OR overall achievement percentile increases in state test scores.

Goal 2

Educators and staff will exemplify the knowledge and competencies needed to ensure the success of every student within the Intergenerational Model.

Target Outcome: Hire and retain more licensed teachers.

At least 80% of fully licensed teachers sign their contract for following year.

Goal 3

The Intergenerational Schools foster home-school partnerships that center student success, family voice, and clarity of the intergenerational model.

Target Outcome: Enrollment & Retention

Enrollment number reaches target for each school, and overall student retention stays at 95% or higher.

Goal 4

Create consistent policies and procedures to align, promote, and support shared accountability and sustainability of the intergenerational educational model.

Target Outcome: Fiscal Management & Fundraising

Keep core deficits at or below budget and raise \$530,000 in FY25.

“It’s rewarding to be part of a school network that works so hard to cultivate community connections and a love for learning in its students.”

–Kelly Lytle, FIGS Board Chair

With a Little Help from Our Friends

Friends of Intergenerational Schools (FIGS) was established to support the fiscal and programmatic needs of Intergenerational Schools (IGS).

Board members champion the mission and serve as active ambassadors in the community, both in person and online, representing the organization with a unified voice, sharing knowledge and raising awareness to support our schools.

Several FIGS Board Members also serve as Learning Partners, including Board President Kelly Lytle. He describes the experience as, “The moments of joy you'll have learning with and from the students are just good medicine for your soul!”

Kelly and the students he has partnered with laugh a lot and sometimes put down the books to talk about science or math, homework and projects coming due, weekend fun, or sports. More than once, he admits, “Students and I have had to be reminded to watch our volume while in the library.” He goes on to say, “It's rewarding to be part of a school network that works so hard to cultivate community connections and a love for learning in its students.”

FIGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-2024

Kelly Lytle
CHAIR

Matthew Grimes

Cena Hilliard

Steven Lake, EdD

Carolyn Wald

Susan Paul

Amanda Yoho



Become a Friend of the Intergenerational Schools

We do more with less. Give today to build community and support lifelong learning.

The Intergenerational Schools receive less in per-student state funding than neighboring schools that are part of the local school district. Small classes and less in per-student funding means the support of our community enables the valuable experiences, like the Learning Partners and Intergenerational visits, that benefit both students and seniors.

Friends of the Intergenerational Schools is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization positioned to raise funds on behalf of the Intergenerational Schools to close this funding gap.

Help us transform public school education! Make a gift today at igschools.org/donate



Intergenerational

S C H O O L S

Near West Intergenerational School

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The Intergenerational School - East

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