



Minnetonka School District, ISD #276
David Law, JD, Superintendent
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, MN 55345
www.minnetonkaschools.org
952-401-5000

Minnetonka School Board Members

Lisa Wagner, Chair	Mark Ambrosen, Director
Meghan Selinger, Vice-Chair	Dr. Mike Remucal, Director
Patrick Lee-O'Halloran, Treasurer	Chris Vitale, Director
Katie Becker, Clerk	

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1287
Hopkins, Minnesota

FALL 2023

AROUND MINNETONKA

NEWS FROM MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MINNETONKA COMMUNITY CELEBRATES HOMECOMING

From September 18-23, the Minnetonka Schools community celebrated Homecoming, an annual opportunity to recognize pride and camaraderie in our district. From Minnetonka High School's pepfest, weeklong spirit activities in all schools and the community-wide parade in Excelsior to the varsity football game and the Minnetonka Alumni Association's annual Alumni Awards Brunch, it was a festive and joyful week recognizing the many ways our community strives for excellence. Pictured below are highlights from the pepfest and parade. **Watch the Homecoming video at bit.ly/mtka-homecoming-2023 or scan the QR code.**



DISTRICT CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2023

- 3.....Second Annual Community & Resource Night, 5:30-8 p.m., MME
- 5.....School Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., DSC
- 12.....P/T Conferences, 4-8 p.m.
- 13.....No School K-12+, P/T Conferences, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 19-20...No School K-12+, Statewide Teacher Meetings
- 23.....K-5 No School (Practice E-learning) and 6-12+ Required E-learning, Staff Professional Learning
- 26.....School Board Study Session, 6 p.m., DSC

NOVEMBER 2023

- 2.....School Board Regular Meeting, 7p.m., DSC
- 6.....Celebration of Service, 6:30 p.m., MHS
- 7.....Election Day
- 9.....Quarter 1 Ends
- 10.....No School, Gr K-12+, Planning and Grading/PLC
- 13.....Quarter 2 Begins
- 16.....School Board Study Session, 6 p.m., DSC
- 22.....No School K-12+, Staff Professional Learning Option
- 23-24.No School K-12+, District Offices Closed, Thanksgiving Break

Tech Levy and Four School Board Seats on the Ballot for November 7

This year, there are two Minnetonka Schools items on ballots for district residents.

- Learn more about the Capital Projects "Tech Levy" at minnetonkaschools.org/tech-levy
- Learn more about School Board candidates at minnetonkaschools.org/elections

DECEMBER 2023

- 7.....School Board Regular Meeting, 7p.m., DSC
- 8.....Tonka Pride Sale, 3-7pm, DSC
- 9.....Tonka Pride Sale, 8am-1pm, DSC
- 14.....School Board Study Session, 6 p.m., DSC
- 21-Jan 2...No School K-12+, Winter Break
- 25-26.. District Offices Closed

Find more upcoming calendar events, district updates and feature stories online at minnetonkaschools.org



KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT



**FOLLOW THE STEPS
TO ENROLL FOR
THE 2024-25
SCHOOL YEAR**

Did you know? Even if you have other children attending school in Minnetonka, you must complete the steps to enroll your child in kindergarten. Begin with the online form at minnetonkaschools.org/enroll-now.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE - JANUARY 15, 2024

Resident families: The priority deadline for resident online enrollment is January 15, 2024. *What does priority mean?* Families must make an important decision for their Kindergarten: English language instruction (all elementary schools), Chinese language Immersion (Excelsior and Scenic Heights elementary schools) or Spanish language Immersion (Deephaven, Clear Springs, Groveland and Minnewashta elementary schools). Your first choice of language and school are given **priority** when you register by January 15. After that date, your first-choice schools or programs may be filled.

Open-enrolled families: The state deadline for Open Enrollment applications is January 15, 2024. There are several steps in the approval process, which are outlined at minnetonkaschools.org/oe-checklist. Families that submit an Open Enrollment application will be notified regarding enrollment by February 15, 2024. At that time, families will be asked to complete the approved Open Enrollment registration form.

DISTRICT OF CHOICE

Minnetonka Public Schools is among the best-performing school districts, not just in Minnesota, but across the nation. Starting in Kindergarten, our primary goal is to inspire the love of learning in

children through academic, social and emotional teaching strategies. Our curriculum balances active, playful, hands-on learning with individual, small- and large-group instruction designed to nurture early academic skills and promote social development. Throughout the grade levels, our innovative programs and extensive supports help each student succeed:

- Personalized, child-centered education
- Caring support to promote student well-being
- K-5 computer coding
- Unique programs for advanced learners in elementary school: Navigators, Wings, project-based learning and accelerated math and reading
- Before- and after-school childcare in our Explorers Program: minnetonkaschools.org/explorers

INFORMATION EVENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN

Register online for a Kindergarten information event to let us know you'll join us: minnetonkaschools.org/info-night

Location	Events in November and December 2023
Clear Springs Elementary 952-401-6950	December 5: In-Person Information Night, 6pm December 7: Virtual Information Night, 6pm
Deephaven Elementary 952-401-6900	November 17: Preschool Story Hour, 9am December 7: In-Person Information Night, 6pm
Excelsior Elementary 952-401-5650	December 5: In-Person Information Night, 6pm December 7: Virtual Information Night, 6pm
Groveland Elementary 952-401-5600	December 5: In-Person Information Night, 6pm December 6: Virtual Information Night, 6pm
Minnewashta Elementary 952-401-5500	December 5: In-Person Information Night, 6pm December 14: Virtual Information Night, 6pm
Scenic Heights Elementary 952-401-5400	November 9: Preschool Story Hour, 9:30am December 5: Virtual Information Night, 6pm December 7: In-Person Information Night, 6pm
Tonka Online 952-283-8126	December 5: Virtual Information Night, 4:30pm

MESSAGE from the Superintendent

Fall is here! The start of school is one of my favorite times of the year—with all of its excitement, celebratory Homecoming events and the joy of welcoming students back into our schools.

I'm pleased to share some of the Homecoming highlights in the photos on this postcard. From the pepfest, to the parade in downtown Excelsior to the Homecoming game, the school spirit alive in the Minnetonka Schools community is incredible!

Now entering October, it might seem early to think about the next school year already, but we know that this transition is on parents' minds and want to provide some guidance and reassurance early in the process for families who will have a Kindergarten: for the 2024-25 school year. Our goal is to walk with families every step of the way on their journey toward their child's first day of school.

It is now my second year in Minnetonka, and I can speak with confidence to the unmatched opportunities for our students. Every one of our elementary schools works to ensure students feel welcome and have a sense of belonging. We know that a positive school environment sets the stage for high quality learning. This is true on the bus, in the halls, in the classroom and on the playground.

In Minnetonka, we take pride in providing world-class, student-centered learning. Our schools are state leaders in math, reading and science proficiency rates, evidence of our commitment to excellence.

With both Chinese and Spanish Language Immersion from Kindergarten through grade twelve, and with more than 40% of our students participating in these programs, we know we are offering students an amazing opportunity. Our elementary students also have the opportunity to learn instrumental music, participate in choir, act in a theatrical performance and have physical education and art weekly.

Finally, I want to say that the community support and the investment in schools makes everything we do and provide possible. I appreciate the amazing support this school district receives from residents, businesses and community partners. Thank you to each of you for all you do to make this a wonderful place to live, lead and learn.

David Law, JD • Superintendent of Schools