

Elementary school boundary change process, 2020/21 school year

In preparation for the opening of Hamilton Ridge, K-5 attendance boundaries will change for our elementary schools effective in the 2020-2021 school year.

New elementary attendance boundaries will help ensure we have adequate instructional and co-curricular space throughout our district for our growing student population. Our goal is to maintain K-5 attendance boundaries for five to six years, given consistent growth patterns and housing development.

The Board is expected to vote on the new elementary attendance boundaries at its June 10th meeting.

Some additional details to note:

- While we will maintain similar K-5 school start times, specific elementary school start-times for 2020-21 will also be reviewed in an effort to gain efficiencies with transportation.
- La ola del lago Spanish immersion program will be located at Grainwood Elementary beginning in the fall of 2020.
- Edgewood School will continue to be home to early learning programs.
- 2019-20 In-district Transfer (IDT) protocol is unchanged from this current year. We will communicate to families in the fall of 2019 IDT protocols for the 2020-21 school year.
- After In-district Transfer placements have been made, open enrollment placements will be made.

Meeting materials and other boundary change information can be found on our website: www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/k5-boundaries

Construction projects will add space for growing enrollment



Bridges Area Learning Center will open this fall on the Twin Oaks Middle School campus

After breaking ground last year, several construction projects are now coming into focus and will be ready to be open in time for the 2019-20 school year.

Exterior work on the new Bridges Area Learning Center is nearly complete. This building will be able to serve approximately 135 students and will feature classrooms and flexible learning spaces along with a kitchen and cafeteria; something Bridges students do not have in the strip mall space that currently is home to Bridges.

Prior Lake High School is receiving two, three-story classroom additions, along with a new space for Industrial Technology classes. PLHS will continue construction with additional classrooms, a new north entrance, kitchen and cafeteria expansion, a four-court activity center and increased parking.

WestWood Elementary and Edgewood School are now joined by a new kitchen and cafeteria/commons area that connects the two schools, serving students in both buildings.

Work at Redtail Ridge and Jeffers Pond Elementary is also progressing with both schools receiving two additional kindergarten classrooms complete by fall.

Work is also underway at Hidden Oaks and Twin Oaks on classroom and cafeteria expansions at both schools. Twin Oaks is also having remodeling done to update and expand the auditorium.

This spring, we will break ground on the new Hamilton Ridge Elementary school that will be built in the Big Sky Estates development in Savage. This K-5 building will open in time for the 2020-21 school year. We will be communicating plans for a groundbreaking ceremony later this spring. Watch our website for details: www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us



Lakefront Music Fest tickets on sale now



Steve Miller Band, headliner July 12



Brad Paisley, headliner July 13

Prior Lake Rotary's Lakefront Music Fest is July 12-13 at Lakefront Park in Prior Lake.

Tickets purchased online from PLSAS booster clubs and parent volunteer organizations will benefit PLSAS students.

Buy tickets online: www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/LFMF19

www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us

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Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools
4540 Tower Street SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Young Native Pride performs at Prior Lake High School



Rhythmic sounds and bright colors filled the auditorium at Prior Lake High School on May 9.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) shared drums, dancing and traditions of Dakota culture with Prior Lake-Savage Area students and the community at the annual Young Native Pride event. The event began with a Grand Entry and a Flag Song, followed by 17 different dances.

SMSC Royalty and the SMSC Youth Leadership Council facilitated and participated in the event which has been a tradition for more than two decades.

Middle school students make live contact with astronaut in space



Hidden Oaks Middle School students had the opportunity to speak directly to an astronaut aboard the International Space Station (ISS) using amateur radio.

Eighth grade science teachers Laura Kuechenmeister and Becky Stark were chosen for the program that had students speaking live with Canadian astronaut, David Saint-Jacques.

Students asked Saint-Jacques questions like, “what did you do to get ready for your mission?” and, “what do you have to do on the space station to conserve resources?” to which he responded live from the Space Station.

The connection was made possible through ARISS, an acronym for Amateur Radio on the ISS, and a program created by a consortium of amateur radio organizations and space agencies, including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. ARISS hopes to inspire students to pursue interests in STEM-related fields.



Scan the code to watch the recorded broadcast or visit youtube.com/isd719

Congratulations
2019 PLSAS Retirees



Valorie Humbert
Five Hawks Elementary
Media Support
28 years of service



John Larson
Grainwood Elementary
Physical Education Teacher
30 years of service



Sara Murr
Hidden Oaks Middle School
6th Grade Social Studies Teacher
31 years of service



Jennifer Reinhardt
Prior Lake High School
Business Teacher
Fab Lab Teacher
32 years of service



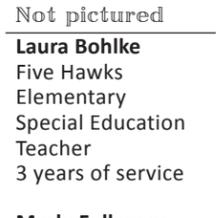
Wanda Ryan
Glendale Elementary
School Social Worker
22 years of service



Paula Sorenson
Glendale Elementary
Child Nutrition Cashier
22 years of service



Pam Cates
Glendale Elementary
Child Nutrition Manager
30 years of service



Marla Fulkerson
Grainwood Elementary
Child Nutrition Cashier
22 years of service

Not pictured
Laura Bohlke
Five Hawks Elementary
Special Education Teacher
3 years of service

Also retiring:

Darla Bauchle | Robin Borchardt | Sharon Hart | Natalya Kopylov
Mary Kroyer | Kendrea McCrady

PLHS music teacher receives award

Prior Lake High School (PLHS) instrumental music teacher, Justin Schramm, has been awarded the Distinguished Young Band Director Award from the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA).

Schramm was surprised by the presentation of the award, which took place at the PLHS band concert May 20. Michael Moeller, Past President of ASBDA, presented the award; Doug Schmitt of Schmitt Music (award sponsor) and Gwen Walz, First Lady of Minnesota, were also in attendance for the award presentation.

There is only one ASBDA award recipient in Minnesota named each year.



Justin Schramm
Instrumental Music Teacher

PLHS named one of the top schools in MN

Prior Lake High School (PLHS) was once again named one of the best high schools in the state, as well as in the country, by U.S. News and World Report.

PLHS came in at 22 out of 416 high schools in Minnesota and is listed at 1,506 of 17,245 top high schools in the nation.

Some factors that contributed to this ranking include math and reading proficiency, graduation rate and how well students are prepared for college.



Honoring future teachers



The first-ever Future Educator Signing Day ceremony took place at Prior Lake High School (PLHS) on May 22 with ten seniors who plan to become teachers.

Similar to high school athletes signing letters of intent with the colleges and universities where they’ll play sports, PLHS Guidance Counselor, Nate Gutshall, organized a ceremony to honor students who have committed to pursuing a teaching career as they enter college in the fall.

Congratulations Ellie Braun, Jessica Chacich, Alison Franck, Kayla Genereau, Megan Liddle, Jake McCauley, Amy McGann, Shelby Niemann, Brooke Oliver and Cecelia Reimer.

Hidden Oaks and Twin Oaks Middle Schools receive recognition



The Prior Lake Middle School (Hidden Oaks and Twin Oaks) Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Team was recently named a 2019 Sustained Exemplar PBIS School by The Minnesota PBIS State Leadership Team. This recognition indicates consistency and diligence in implementing PBIS.

PBIS is a way for schools to implement evidence-based behavioral interventions to enhance academic and social outcomes for students. Students are celebrated for doing great things and staff work with students who show negative behaviors to teach them ways to improve. With PBIS, behavior expectations are taught just like any other curriculum.

Prior to the 2018-2019 school year, a team of staff worked to merge the Hidden Oaks and Twin Oaks Middle School PBIS programs into one middle school program, providing consistency for students at both middle schools.

The Prior Lake Middle School PBIS Team will be recognized for their award at the Minnesota Department of Education Summer Institute in June.

E-STEM in action



Grainwood students learned from experts at Richardson Nature Center of Three Rivers Parks about wildlife, water quality, Native American traditions and more during E-STEM Day.

Throughout the month of May, Grainwood, Jeffers Pond, La ola del lago, Redtail Ridge, WestWood, Hidden Oaks and Twin Oaks each participated in E-STEM days which provided students with dozens of hands-on learning opportunities. E-STEM stands for Environmental Education, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Other schools in the district hold E-STEM days in the fall.

LEF Gratitude Greetings honor staff

This spring, the Laker Educational Foundation is offering two ways to say "Thank you" to teachers and staff.

For every tax-deductible donation of \$20 made to the Laker Educational Foundation, your chosen staff member(s) will receive a personalized Gratitude Greeting or Teacher Tribute, and a \$10 gift card to Charlie's On Prior.



The Teacher Tributes are the perfect way for 2019 seniors to thank the special teachers who have touched them deeply and changed the course of their lives. It's the best time to give them the recognition, honor and respect they deserve.

To donate, visit the LEF website www.lakerfoundation.org and click the Gratitude Greeting link on the home page.



Community Education
Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools
www.priorlakesavagece.com
952-226-0080

Join us this summer for
ECFE. July 9th-August 7th

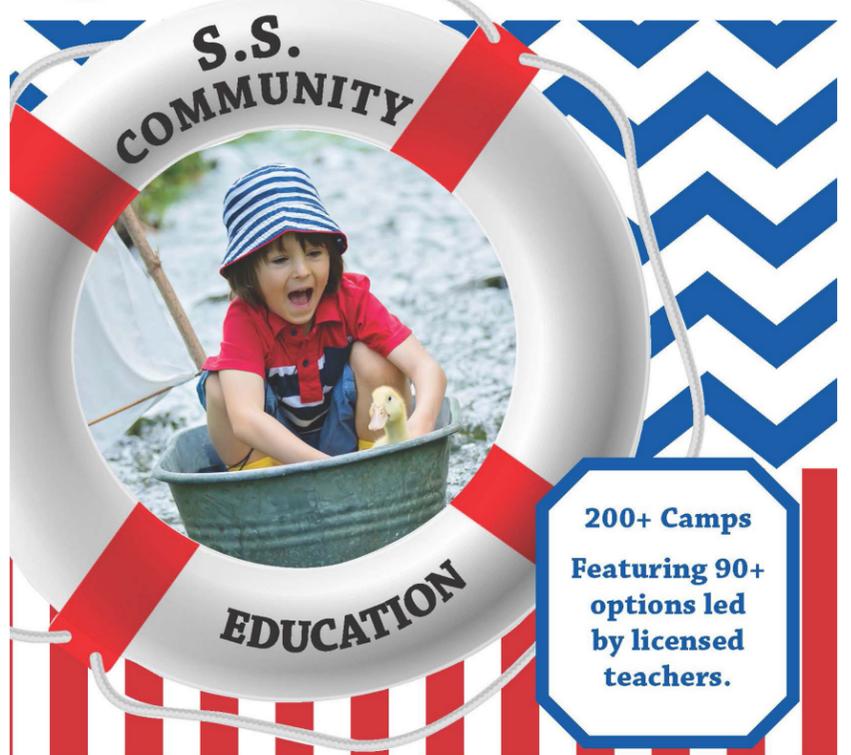


Now accepting registrations
for the 2019-2020
school year
Circle of Friends Preschool



Community Education
Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools
www.priorlakesavagece.com
952-226-0080

YOUTH PROGRAMS
SUMMER 2019



The Strategic College Student How to Get Higher Grades While Studying LESS (Ages 12-26 w/Parent)

It's recommended, but not required, that students ages 12-26 and their parents attend this session together.

There's not a student alive who wouldn't love to get higher grades than anyone else while studying LESS than most other people. In this class, students age 12-26 and their parents will learn the advanced studying, test-taking, and paper-writing strategies that top students use to succeed at the most prestigious colleges in the country while still having plenty of time left over for leadership, interning and having more fun than they ever thought possible. Students will leave at the end of this class armed with a systematic review method developed at Carnegie Mellon University that can completely eliminate the need to ever cram for exams.

Instructor Jeannie Burlowski is a full time author, academic strategist, and speaker. Her speaking and writing help parents set their kids up to graduate college debt-free and move directly into careers they excel at and love. Jeannie also helps students apply to highly competitive law, medical, business, and grad schools at GetIntoMedSchool.com, and she is the author of the book LAUNCH: How to Get Your Kids Through College Debt-Free and Into Jobs They Love Afterward.

August 15 | 6-9 pm | Prior Lake High School | 7575 150th St W | Savage, MN

From the Superintendent



Teri Staloch, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Commitment to continuous improvement and strong customer service is not unique to the business world; school districts also look for ways to measure progress on our mission. One of the ways we do that at Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools (PLSAS) is by conducting an annual survey of parents, staff and students.

This spring marked our third annual online survey designed to collect feedback on work aligned to our mission "to educate all learners to reach their full potential as contributing and productive members of our ever-changing global community."

The results are in and we have much to celebrate. We have learned that PLSAS is a place where many families feel safe, students are making positive connections with adults, and staff pride and respect for one another is widely felt.

We also know that surveys indicate ways we can improve. The 2017-18 stakeholder survey data was used to make security enhancements in our schools including the addition of our visitor management system and implementing Lockdown with Options protocols.

As a result, we added a new question to our staff survey this year with results indicating 97% of teachers and 93% of support staff either strongly agree or agree that they are aware of how to implement the new Lockdown with Options protocols.

A theme that is emerging from this latest survey, and from community feedback received during our Strategic Plan Review, is to continually look for new ways to address the social and emotional well-being of all learners. This is now embedded as a Strategic Direction and I look forward to sharing more with you in the coming months as we develop this priority work for the 2019-20 school year.

We will again use this latest survey data to set goals and seek continuous improvement throughout the district.

Results of all the surveys can be found on our website: www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/2019-survey-results

Please know how much we appreciate those who took the time to take our survey. We value your input as an important part of the improvement process.

Congratulations



Congratulations to Prior Lake High School Athena Award winner, Charlotte Bowles. The Athena Award program recognizes outstanding female students in athletics and academics within their school.

Charlotte will attend the University of North Dakota where she will play tennis.



Congratulations to Prior Lake High School student Aidan Becken on receiving a corporate-sponsored scholarship through the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Aidan will receive \$2,500 which can be used at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university.

Survey results are in

The third annual stakeholder survey results are complete. Results are posted on the website: www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/2019-survey-results



of parents said adults/teachers believe my child can learn and be successful

Parent Survey

- 96% of parents indicated that their child's school is clean and well maintained.
- 87% of parents said they believe their child's school is safe and secure.
- 93% of parents feel respected at their child's school.
- 89% of parents said their child likes to go to school.

98%

of elementary students



89%

of secondary students

feel safe and secure in school

Student Surveys

- 96% of elementary students and 83% of secondary students feel connected to at least one adult at their school.
- 97% of elementary students and 88% of secondary students say adults/teachers in their building have high expectations for them.
- 94% of elementary students and 93% of secondary students said their teachers use technology to help them learn.

94%

of Certified Staff



98%

of Educational Support Staff

said they are proud to be associated with PLSAS and its brand

Staff Surveys

- 97% of Certified Staff* and 93% of Educational Support Staff** said they are aware of how to implement Lockdown with Options procedures.
- 95% of Certified Staff and 93% of Educational Support Staff said they work in a building/department with high expectations.
- 91% of Certified Staff and 95% of Educational Support Staff said they work in an environment that respects diversity and is discrimination free.

* Employees requiring a license through the MN Department of Education, ie. teachers, principals, superintendent

** All other employees not requiring a certified license, ie. cooks, custodians, secretaries

Are you new to the district?

Welcome to Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools! If you have school-age children, you can enroll them online at www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/enroll or visit the District Services Center, 4540 Tower Street SE in Prior Lake.

For more information, call 952-226-0000. We look forward to welcoming your child into our school district as a Laker!

Connect with us

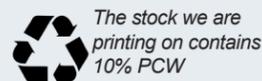
To get news, photos, events and more, "like" us on Facebook and/or follow us on Twitter and Instagram.



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twitter.com/isd719
[instagram.com/isd719](https://www.instagram.com/isd719)

About this newsletter

For questions or comments regarding *Laker Connections*, contact Kristi Mussman, Director of Communications, kmussman@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us or 952-226-0014



Our mission is to educate all learners to reach their full potential as contributing and productive members of our ever-changing global community.

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