



# PRIOR LAKE-SAVAGE AREA SCHOOLS

## Prior Lake Chamber to host PLSAS School Board Candidate Forum

Candidates for the PLSAS School Board have been invited to participate in a forum on October 11 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Prior Lake City Hall, 4646 Dakota St SE, Prior Lake.

The eleven candidates for four four-year terms on the Board are (in alphabetical order):

- Jonathan Drewes
- Andrew Ganfield
- Jason Kwiat
- Sarah Rippke Lloyd
- Ajay Mandal
- Michael Nelson
- Michael Peterson
- Mark Pexa
- Stacey Ruelle
- Enrique Velazquez
- Josh Welch

All eleven candidates will be on the ballot Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 6.

During the forum, the moderator will ask the questions and members of the public will have opportunities to submit questions of the candidates in advance. The Chamber is accepting questions and questions can be submitted to Kim Prchal, the moderator, at Blahnik, Prchal & Stoll PLLC, 4617 Colorado Street, Prior Lake, Minnesota. Questions need to be submitted by Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

The candidate forum is sponsored by the Prior Lake Chamber of Commerce and will be televised live on the City of Prior Lake's Mediacom channel 808 and Integra channel 15. The forum will also be recorded for playback on the City channels and on the district's cable channel 17 in Prior Lake and Savage. Web streaming will be made available on the respective websites a couple days following the event at [www.cityofpriorlake.com](http://www.cityofpriorlake.com) and [www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/election](http://www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/election).

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## Strategic Plan Review

### Please Join Us

Strategic Plan Review

Thursday, November 1, 2018

5-9 p.m. PLHS commons

Light dinner is included

**RSVP by October 29: [mwalz@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us](mailto:mwalz@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us)**

You are invited to our strategic planning meeting as we review the most important document in Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools: [Our Framework for the Future](#) that defines our mission, core values, vision and strategic directions.

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**Breaking new ground**



The new Bridges Area Learning Center (ALC) will be open in the fall of 2019 and to celebrate, PLSAS recently held a groundbreaking ceremony.

With construction set to get underway in the coming weeks, the event also honored Bridges ALC Coordinator Dave Brown who is now on leave after being deployed overseas with the Minnesota National Guard. Brown plans to return in the summer. In the meantime, PLHS Assistant Principal, Heather Fitzloff will lead Bridges.



Thanks to community support, the new Bridges ALC will be built next to Twin Oaks Middle School and will be constructed using funds from the November 2017 referendum that was approved by voters. Also included in the referendum was a new elementary school and additions to Prior Lake High School and six other schools.

To see the latest construction timeline and building designs, visit our [website](#).

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### **It's Homecoming week!**

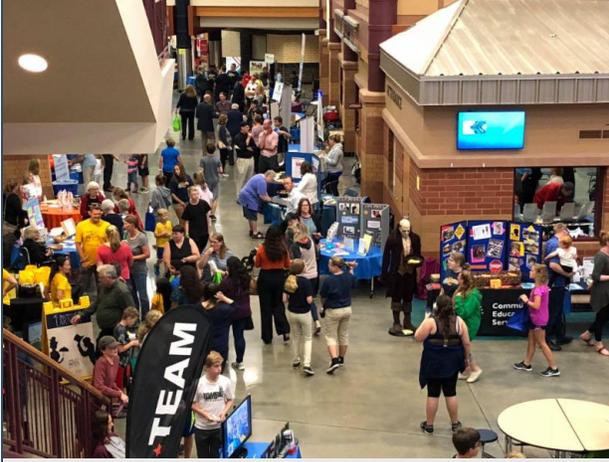


This week schools are gearing up for the Homecoming game Friday, September 28, when the Lakers will take on Burnsville at 7 p.m. at Dan Patch Stadium. The dance will be Saturday at 8 p.m.

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### **Fall Community Fest**

Thank you to the hundreds of community members who attended our popular Fall



Community Fest on September 17 at PLHS.

Representatives from a variety of local businesses and non-profit organizations were on hand to talk about their products and services. The annual event is presented by PLSAS Community Education, in partnership with the Prior Lake and Savage Chambers of Commerce.

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## New visitor management system installed in all buildings

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools' first priority is to make sure our students, staff and visitors are safe. That's why we are now using a new visitor management system in all of our schools. This system will better allow us to track visitors in our buildings and enhance our existing school safety plans.



During the school day, visitors will be asked to present a government-issued ID, such as a driver's license or passport, which will be scanned into the system. The system will then conduct an on-the-spot background check against the national sex-offender database. Once entry is approved, a sticker badge will be issued.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in this important security effort.

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## PLSAS offers improved website accessibility for visitors

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools is committed to providing equal access to digital content on our website for all users. That's why you will now notice a new addition to our website that enables users with visual impairments or other disabilities to access content more easily.



This icon, located on the bottom right of our website ([www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us](http://www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us)), represents an interactive tool that helps people with disabilities customize the visual display of our web pages. When accessed, visitors have the ability to change their view of our website to meet their individual needs. Those who do not use assistive technology may ignore this icon and use the site as they have in the past.

This new feature will also include a screen reader and a form to report accessibility or usability errors. If you have any recommendations to enhance our website's accessibility, please submit your feedback through the AudioEye Help Desk by clicking on the icon on our website, or pressing H on your keyboard and completing the form.

For questions, please contact Chelsea Braudt, Communications and Social Media Specialist: (952) 226-0013 | [cbraudt@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us](mailto:cbraudt@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us)

## Sign up to receive text message alerts

PLSAS has the ability to deliver important information to you via text messaging, such as school closures due to weather. This service is not intended to replace existing communications, but rather enhance them. This is a one-way text messaging solution in which you must first opt-in if you have not done so already. There is no charge for the text messages however, your wireless provider may charge you for individual text

messages depending on your wireless plan.

- From your cell phone, text the word Join to the number 56360
- If the messaging system finds a match for your number in our database, you receive a confirmation message thanking you for joining school alerts
- At any time, you can unsubscribe by texting Stop to 56360
- Create a contact on your phone such as PLSAS, or another meaningful name, and the phone number 56360. Then, when you receive a text from this number in the future, you know who is sending it

If you do not receive a confirmation message, please contact your child's school to ensure we have the correct mobile phone number on file in our system.

## Check out our garden bars!

At PLSAS, we believe healthy kids learn better. Offering garden bars at our elementary schools is just one way we encourage healthy habits from a young age. And yes - kids are eating their veggies! Check out the latest Child Nutrition Services video.



## Four Prior Lake High School students among NMSC semifinalists

Prior Lake High School seniors Rachel Aruldas, Aidan Becken, Alexis Cohn and Carter Mong are among 16,000 semifinalists in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. These students have the opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships to be offered next spring.



More than 1.6 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

## PLHS student selected for national honor ensemble

PLHS student Matthew Baer was selected for the National Association for Music Education, All-National Honor Ensemble.

Matthew is one of two Minnesota students selected for this great honor and the first PLHS student ever selected!

He will perform in the orchestra with students from 49 states and territories at Disney World on November 27-28.



**Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools Community Education offers many classes and events. To view and register for all of our offerings please visit [www.priorlakesavagece.com](http://www.priorlakesavagece.com)**

### **Early Childhood Programs**

*Programming for infants to 5 years*

### **Circle of Friends Preschool**

Are you looking for a preschool program for your child? In order to grow and reach their full potential, young children need a rich, stable, and safe world, with affectionate and supportive grown-ups, and lots of opportunities for play and discovery. A quality early education program delivers just that, which is exactly what we do at Circle of Friends Preschool! There is space available at Circle of Friends Preschool for the 2018-2019 school year. [See our website](#) more information.

### **Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) Classes**

This year, ECFE is offering some more great classes for guardians and young children! View the [2018-2019 ECFE course catalog](#) to see which class you'd like to join!

### **Family Event – Boo Dash October 13, 2018**

*10:00-11:30*

*Location: Edgewood School*

### **Opiates in Minnesota: Narcan Training**

Mon, Oct. 1 6:30-8 pm

Twin Oaks Middle School

\$19/person or \$29/pair

### **Knowing Your Muslim Neighbor and Student**

Tue, Oct. 2 6:30-9 pm

Twin Oaks Middle School

\$19/person

### **Girls: Made with Code (Girls Gr. 3-7)**

Sat, Oct. 6 9 am to Noon

Twin Oaks Middle School

\$39/person

### **Family Chess (Ages 5+ w/Adult)**

Tue, Oct. 9 to Nov. 27 6-7 pm

Twin Oaks Middle School

\$135/child, Adult pair

### **Knowing Your Muslim Neighbor: Part 2**

Tue, Oct. 9 6:30-9 pm

Twin Oaks Middle School

\$19/person

### **Super Saturday – Youth Mental Health Workshops**

Sat, Oct. 13 9 am to 2:30 pm

Prior Lake High School

More information about this event, hosted by the Early Learning Advisory Council, will be posted on our [Early Childhood Programs webpage](#) in the coming weeks.

**Early Childhood Screening**

This is a free and simple check of how your child is growing and developing, offered through the Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools. Join us at Screening as soon as your child reaches 3 years, 2 months. Call today for an appointment: 952-226-0975.

Free but registration required. Register by October 1 for Free childcare.

**Community Halloween Party**

Enjoy games, prizes, inflatables, treats, individual and family costume contests a haunted house and more!

Sat, Oct. 27 2:30-5 pm

Twin Oaks Middle School

\$5/person ages 1-12 (Infants and Adults free) Supervision required for children ages 9 and under