

The newly renovated community pool at East High School, 2600 Hoffman Road.

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Renovated community pool makes waves of new learning opportunities

By Shelly Miller

Attend an open house to kick-off new gym and swim events at the East High School swimming pool, 2600 Hoffman Road, Mankato on Sunday, September 23 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. There is no cost to attend. Pre-registration (at mankatocer.com, 507-387-5501 or at Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton Street) for Community Education and Recreation (CER) events is required for planning and because of size limitations.

Mankato Area Public Schools' recently renovated community pool and new locker room brings waves of new opportunities to the community through CER. The facility, located at East High School, now offers greater access to aquatic activities.

Audra Nissen-Boyer, director of community education and recreation for Mankato Area Public Schools, says upgrades at the community pool and locker room create more opportunities for all.

"We are thrilled to offer more aquatic opportunities through Community Education and Recreation that reach all, teach all and include all," Nissen-Boyer says. "Aquatic activities serve all populations. Our renovated and upgraded facility will allow more access and options that reach all age groups."

Some offerings include year-round swimming lessons, pool use for daytime fitness and a variety of family events including Gym and Swim. Access to the expanded locker room allows daytime fitness classes.

Gym and Swim includes time in the gym and pool. Swims are gender-specific, including parents and/or guardians and lifeguards.

OPEN HOUSE

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Options for pre-registration:

- ◆ Online: mankatocer.com
- ◆ Phone: 507-387-5501
- ◆ In person: Lincoln Community Center, 110 Fulton Street

Private vs. public information—important to know

The following information is provided to raise awareness about data privacy practices regarding student information.

Privacy rights

Education records are classified as private data on individuals by state law and accessible only to student's parent/guardian or a student who is at least 18 years old. The school district may not disclose private records or their contents except as summary data without prior written consent of parent/guardian or eligible student. In some cases, private records may not be accessible to parents/guardians. State law provides that certain information in a student's education records be accessible only to that student and to parent/guardian under special circumstances, if at all.

Directory information What is directory information?

Directory information includes student's name, address, telephone number, email address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, attendance dates, grade level, enrollment status, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, degrees, honors and awards received, most recent educational agency or institution attended by student, photographs of students taking part in officially recognized activities, sports, academic or nonacademic classes or programs and other similar information.

Note: Directory information doesn't include a student's religion, race, color, disability, social position or nationality.

Is directory information public?

Yes. A school district may disclose this information from a student's education records. However, if a parent/guardian or student chooses, information will not be released without prior written consent except to school officials as provided under federal law.

Disclosure of data to military recruitment officers

The school district will release names, addresses and home telephone numbers of secondary students to military recruiting officers within 60 days after request date unless a parent/guardian or eligible student has refused in writing the release of this data to military recruiters. Data released under this provision may be used only to provide student information about military service, state and federal veterans' education benefits and other career and educational opportunities the military provides.

Do I have to release data to military recruiters?

A parent/guardian or eligible student has the right to refuse release of directory information to military recruiting officers and must notify Mankato Area Public Schools' director of human resources and organizational development in writing by September 15 of each year. Written notification must include names of student and parent/guardian, home address, grade level, school, parent's legal relationship to student and information that should not be released to military recruiters

without prior consent. Keep in mind that refusal to release information does not affect school district's release of directory information to the public, including military recruiting officers. To make any directory information about a student private, follow procedures under "How do I make directory information private?"

Register for CER offerings online at mankatocer.com, by phone at 507-387-5501 or at the Lincoln

How do I make directory information private?

A parent/guardian or eligible student must submit a written request that includes student's name, home address, school, parent's legal relationship and specific category or categories of directory information that should remain private to building principal within 30 days after date of last publication notice. If parents/guardians do not want their child's or eligible student's directory information released to military recruiting officers, the school district must be notified that directory information should not be released to

any member of the public, including military recruiters.

How do I obtain nondisclosures of directory information?

A written notice from parent/guardian or eligible student should be sent to district's director of human resources and must include student's name, home address, school presently attended by student, parent's legal relationship to student (if applicable), specific categories of directory information not to be made public without prior written consent, which shall be applicable for that school year.

For more information contact Eric Hudspith, director of human resources and organizational development at Mankato Area Public Schools, at 507-387-3017 or ehudsp1@isd77.org. Written correspondence may be sent to Hudspith at 10 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato, MN 56001.



Mankato Area Public Schools

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The Educare Foundation has provided more than \$1.2 million in financial support to Mankato Area Public Schools to fund programs and activities that go beyond the normal operating budget. Through this funding, teachers are enabled to enhance educational opportunities for all students, explore new ways of learning and provide a vital link between the community and the classroom.

For more information about the Educare Foundation, call 507-387-1868 or visit www.educarefoundation.org.

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