



EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS **INSPIRING NEWS**
Inspiring each student every day

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EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS

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FROM **EP** SCHOOL BOARD

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!



Eden Prairie School Board of Directors

Dave Espe • Terri Swartout • Lauren Crandall • Elaine Larabee
Karla Bratrud • Holly Link • Adam Seidel • Dr. Josh Swanson, Supt.

The School Board continued its work over the summer. In June, we approved the 2019-2020 budget. We are pleased to share that due to favorable funding from the state legislature and the District's continued efforts to identify efficiencies, budget projections show that revenue from our 2014 operating referendum is expected to cover expenses for at least three years beyond the five years originally predicted. This is good news for Eden Prairie taxpayers.

Also, in June, we took a fresh look at our Board's "Ends Policies"—the results the Board expects to see accomplished by the District. These include Board expectations in areas like student reading by grade 3 and graduation rates. While the superintendent is responsible for implementation, the Board monitors the expected progress toward the achievement of these policies. We are grateful for our community's approval of the bond referendum in May. The spring vote allowed district staff

to start some of the work while school was out and also provided enough lead time to prepare competitive bids for major construction that will start next summer. We are excited about the transformation of Central Middle School, expansion of preschool programs, the enhancement of classrooms, and improved security in all schools.

Later this fall, four of our seven School Board seats are up for election. Filing for office closed on August 13. Watch for information about the candidates and please plan to vote on Tuesday, November 5.

We welcome you to our meetings, workshops, and listening sessions. The Board calendar, Board's policies, and work plan are found on the School Board web page on edenpr.org.

Best wishes for a strong start to the 2019-2020 school year!



EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL
Inspiring each student every day

In response to feedback from Designing Pathways, we are expanding online learning opportunities at the high school level. To learn more about Eden Prairie's online courses, visit edenpr.org/ep-online.



MY INSPIRATION for 2019-20

A Message from Superintendent Dr. Josh Swanson

Empty classrooms are no fun. Without students, a classroom is just a big, empty space. Inspiration lives in our staff, students, and community throughout our district. That's why the fall is so exciting as everyone prepares and returns. Our spaces reflect that work of staff and students. Custodians clean so the building itself carries a message that each student is welcome: "we've spent time and effort getting this ready just for you." Teachers hang on their walls artwork, words of inspiration and learning ideas that might spark their students' imagination. Nutrition services staff plan menus and order fresh produce to give students the fuel for their education. And on that first day, in come the students with their ideas and enthusiasm, sparking conversations and asking questions that inspire us, the staff who are fortunate to work with them.

We remain committed to our mission to inspire each student every day. This means knowing a student's passions and interests, and using this to propel the student to greater depths of learning. It is incredibly gratifying to be a part of someone's life in this way. This is what inspires me: to be able to work with people who are inspiring our students, and to see and hear from students. Finding that spark of interest in a student and bringing it out of them is what we do every day in Eden Prairie Schools. We're looking forward to another great school year!

**-Dr. Josh Swanson
Superintendent**



Thanks to the May 2019 referendum, approved by **70% of Eden Prairie voters**, classrooms like this are being redesigned to support the different learning styles of our students.



SHOW YOUR WINGS

Name: Connor Christensen **Grade:** 12

School: Eden Prairie High School

My Wings: My favorite parts about EPHS are the people and resources available to students both inside and outside of the classroom. EPHS teachers have helped prepare me for life after graduation through extensive coursework in a collaborative environment. I've been able to take a variety of advanced placement courses that allowed me to challenge myself and build relationships with others who have similar interests. I've also loved the opportunity to connect with younger students through both athletic and academic experiences. It's always great to volunteer, teach, and give back to the community through personal experiences.

EXCERPT **EP** EXPRESS

EDEN PRAIRIE NEWS IN 30 SECONDS



01 Kindergarten

Will your child be five years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020? If so, it's time to get ready for kindergarten! Our excellent, caring teachers are ready to welcome your child. Registration opens mid-Oct. 2019 for the 2020-21 school year. Learn more at edenpr.org/kindergarten.



Now Hiring: Paraprofessionals 02



We're looking for qualified applicants to help us inspire each student every day. Check out all of the paraprofessional opportunities and other job openings at edenpr.org/jobs.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Sept. 27: Homecoming
- Oct 3: League of Women Voters Forum for School Board Candidates: Eden Prairie Council Chambers, 8080 Mitchell Rd
- Oct. 8 & 10: Middle School Conferences
- Oct. 10 & 15: Elementary Conferences
- Oct. 11: No School: Elementary Conferences/Professional Development
- Oct. 9 & 14: High School Conferences
- Oct. 17: No School: MEA
- Oct. 18: No School: MEA
- Nov. 5: Election Day
- Nov. 8: No School
- Nov. 27-29: No School: Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 23-Jan. 3: No School: Winter Break

03 Schedule a Tour

We invite you to tour our schools to see our outstanding students and staff in action. Visit edenpr.org/tour or call 952-975-7000 to schedule a tour at one or more of our excellent schools today.

