

Spotlight

Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools



DISTRICT196[®]
One District. Infinite Possibilities.

Winter 2019 | Volume 60 • Number 2

At District 196, the sky's the limit. That's because our committed team of educators is dedicated to helping learners explore the outer limits of their vast potential.

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Helping the homeless

Westview Elementary School students and families donated 1,040 pairs of socks, more than double their goal, during the school's "Socktober" drive in October. The annual sock drive benefits the St. Joan of Arc Mobile Loaves & Fishes nonprofit in Minneapolis. The organization has a food truck that delivers more than 130 hot meals daily, along with hats, socks and mittens, to those experiencing homelessness. Pictured (left to right) are Westview Student Council representatives **Shannon O'Connell, Aryana Hovdet, Aubrey Ernst and Josiah Ray.**

Voters approve levy and elect four School Board members

District 196 voters approved a levy referendum question and elected incumbent School Board members **Jackie Magnuson, Joel Albright** and **Sachin Isaacs**, and newcomer **Cory Johnson** in the Nov. 5 school district election.

The levy referendum was approved with 14,380 yes votes (64 percent) to 8,171 no votes (36 percent). The approved question revokes the operating levy approved by district voters in 2013 and replaces it with a new 10-year levy that will raise \$19 million more per year than the revoked levy, plus annual adjustments for inflation.

The district brought the levy question as an alternative to making up to \$18 million in additional budget adjustments over the next two years. The district made \$7 million in budget adjustments this year as a first step in addressing a \$25 million budget shortfall due to years of inadequate state and federal funding for general and special education.

The revenue raised from the approved levy will be used to:

- Avoid additional budget cuts for at least the next five years;
- Restore staffing cuts implemented for this school year;
- Improve the classroom-staffing ratio at all grades;
- Increase mental health support for students at all schools, and
- Provide after-school activity buses at the district's middle schools and high schools.

The tax impact of the levy increase is \$25 per month, or \$300 per year, for the owner of the average-value home in the district (\$286,500). This is in addition to the \$391 per year cost of the 2013 levy, which is included in the new 10-year levy.

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District enrollment increases, more rapid growth projected

Enrollment in the Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools reached a new all-time high this year and is projected to continue growing over the next several years.

Student Information Supervisor **Kim Reis** presented the official Oct. 1 enrollment report at the Oct. 14 School Board meeting. The report shows there were 29,223 students enrolled in the district on Oct. 1 this year, an increase of 348 students (1.2 percent) over last year.

This is the seventh consecutive year of rising enrollment in District 196 and the growth is expected to continue at a more rapid rate in the years ahead. Former state demographer **Hazel Reinhardt** told the School Board two years ago that total enrollment could top 33,000 students by the 2026-27 school year. She said that will depend on the pace of new housing development in the southern and eastern portions of the district, including the 4,800-acre UMore Park property in Rosemount that the University of Minnesota started to sell to developers last year.

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Infinite Possibilities

District 196 is nationally recognized for providing boundless opportunities in which students can learn and grow. Whether they have an affinity for academics, arts or athletics, our goal is to expose students to the infinite possibilities within the district and throughout our communities. Together, we encourage them each day to pursue excellence as they experience their exciting journey along the road of life.

Spotlight Newsletter

This quarterly publication is mailed to every household in District 196 to inform parents and other residents about district news.

Send comments on **Spotlight** to tony.taschner@district196.org

NONDISCRIMINATION

NOTICE: District 196 does not discriminate in employment or in any of its programs and activities, including vocational opportunities, on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, creed, national origin, marital status, familial status,* disability, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, membership or activity in a local human rights commission,* age or genetic information.* District 196 provides equal access to designated youth groups.

The Director of Human Resources, Tom Pederstuen (651-423-7859 - tom.pederstuen@district196.org) has been designated to respond to employment-related inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies including Title IX. The Director of Elementary Education, Sally Soliday (651-423-7782 - sally.soliday@district196.org) and the Director of Secondary Education, Michael Bolsoni (651-423-7712 - Michael.Bolsoni@district196.org) have been designated to respond to student-related inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies including Title IX. The Director of Special Education, Janet Fimmen (651-423-7629 - janet.fimmen@district196.org) has been designated to respond to inquiries concerning the rights of a student with a disability including Section 504. The mailing address for all directors is 3455 153rd Street W, Rosemount, MN 55068.

*Asterisked categories are limited to employment-related discrimination and harassment.



Magnuson



Albright



Isaacs



Johnson

Election results << continued from front page >>

"We are pleased with the outcome and grateful that residents are willing to increase their investment in our schools to maintain and improve the quality programs that make District 196 a district of choice," Superintendent **Mary M. Kreger** said. "The District 196 community has always supported a strong educational program and we will continue to be good stewards of the public's resources."

The top vote getter in the School Board election was Magnuson, a Rosemount resident, who garnered 8,816 votes in winning election to her ninth term on the board. Next, with 8,379 votes, was Albright, an Apple Valley resident elected to his fifth term on the board; Isaacs, of Burnsville, received 7,091 votes to win election to his second term, and Johnson, of Eagan, captured the final open seat with 5,849 votes. The other eight candidates finished as follows: former board member **Gary Huusko** of Eagan, 4,875 votes; **Maggie Bruecken** of Apple Valley, 4,415 votes; **Rebecca Gierok** of Apple Valley, 4,372 votes; **Curtis Henry** of Rosemount, 4,180 votes; **Laura Holm** of Rosemount, 4,096 votes; **Kristin Schaub** of Apple Valley, 3,320 votes; **Angela Noonan** of Eagan, 3,156 votes, and **Hannibal Smith** of Apple Valley, 2,412 votes.

The newly-elected School Board members will take the oath of office at the Jan. 13 regular School Board meeting to begin their four-year terms.

Of the 98,670 registered voters in District 196 on Election Day, 22,601 cast ballots in the School Board and levy referendum election, representing a 23-percent turnout among registered voters.

Operating Levy Referendum Results by Precinct

Precinct #	Polling Place	Yes	No
1	Berean Baptist Church, Burnsville	717	468
2	Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Lakeville	1,150	640
3	Apple Valley Senior Center, Apple Valley	833	611
4	Mount Olivet Assembly of God Church, Apple Valley	1,175	609
5	Apple Valley Municipal Center, Apple Valley	790	368
6	District Service Center, Apple Valley	1,132	682
7	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Apple Valley	662	358
8	Our Saviors Church, Rosemount	1,244	857
9	Hosanna Church, Rosemount	1,516	788
10	St. Thomas Becket Church, Eagan	1,155	621
11	Saints Martha and Mary Episcopal Church, Eagan	1,190	613
12	Easter Lutheran Church, Eagan	1,110	608
13	Christ Lutheran Church, Eagan	721	394
14	Chapel Hill Baptist Church, Eagan	985	554
TOTALS		14,380	8,171

Rooting educational excellence in relationships and gratitude

By **Mary M. Kreger**, superintendent

Gratitude is a word that I have reflected on often in the last couple of months. I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside dedicated educators and staff. I am grateful for the opportunity to witness the talents of our student population. And I am grateful for our District 196 community who passed the operating levy referendum and supports our mission of providing educational excellence and boundless opportunities for our students.

This support comes at a time when it is most needed. Earlier this year, students and teachers participated in voluntary surveys facilitated by Education Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Education in an effort to learn more about student health and well-being. The results affirmed the need for additional resources. Both our educators and our students report more students are struggling with school attendance, mental health, adverse childhood experiences and substance abuse. These reports are concerning. Despite the seriousness of our concerns for students, we are encouraged by the fact that students overwhelmingly reported that "teachers care about me". We know that an important antidote to student strife is healthy, caring relationships with adults.

We see the power of support for students with the many, varied accomplishments throughout our district. The students recognized for their personal and team achievements represent a vast array of talent in all of our students. Excellence in academics, arts and athletics is clearly shining through our incredible students. The support of this community allows us to continue to nurture our students and help them strive for excellence.

Teachers, coaches and other leaders in our district truly make a difference in students being successful in and out of the classroom. There is a saying in education that states, "Students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." Strong relationships are critically important to student success. The teachers, administrators and staff in District 196 care greatly about our children.



I recently had an opportunity to talk with secondary students about their experience attending the student-led Reimagine Minnesota's student conference. The conference convened students from across the metro area to discuss the future of education. A recurring theme from our conversations was gratitude for the opportunities and support they receive as students in our district. Hearing the words of these thoughtful, engaged, bright, young leaders inspires all of us to build on the strong foundation and ensure every student experience that sense of opportunity and support.

The success of the levy referendum speaks directly to the needs of our students and staff. Because of your support, we will have more teachers to build relationships and continue to provide world class learning experiences. We will have additional mental health support to help students navigate the concerns they bring to school so they can access their education and achieve their infinite possibilities. And we will have transportation for after-school activities so all students can enjoy the benefits of co-curricular activities.

A strong school district benefits our entire community. It is an honor and a privilege to do the hard, and joyful, work of education. We are grateful for the task at hand and fully committed to building on the confidence placed in District 196. We will continue our tradition of excellence in academics, arts and athletics, and to ensure every student receives the best education possible. Thank you, citizens of District 196, for placing your continued commitment to education.



Mary M. Kreger

Board approves contract with teachers and nurses

In September, the School Board approved a new two-year agreement with members of Dakota County United Educators (DCUE), representing the more than 2,100 teachers and school nurses in District 196.

The approved contract runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021. It provides a 2.55-percent improvement to the salary schedule each year, and a 5-percent increase in the district contribution to health care insurance in the first year of the contract followed by a 2-percent increase in the second year.

A first-year teacher with a bachelor's degree will earn \$42,968 under the contract this year, while an experienced teacher with a master's degree at the top of the salary schedule will earn \$78,968 in base salary and up to \$8,318 in longevity pay.

"I am pleased to have a settlement that will keep us competitive in attracting and retaining the best teachers and school nurses," said Superintendent **Mary M. Kreger**. "Teachers are the biggest factor in the achievement of every child. District 196 is a high achieving district of choice because of the range of opportunities we provide and the high-quality people we are working with our students."

District 196 is the fourth largest district in the state and one of the largest employers in Dakota County. Earlier this year, District 196 was named to Forbes' inaugural list of Best-in-State Employers, ranking 12th of 51 employers selected from Minnesota and the only school district on the state's list. Forbes and Statistica compiled the list based on surveys of 80,000 Americans working for employers with at least 500 employees.

Enrollment << continued from page 1 >>

In addition to new development, District 196 continues to enroll a high percentage of school-age students who live in the district. Last year, District 196 had a "capture rate" of 87 percent of resident students compared to a statewide average of 77 percent. "You have a very high capture rate for a Twin Cities school district," Reinhardt told the board. "You continue to be a public school district of choice."

Reinhardt is currently developing enrollment projections for each school in the district, as well as updated projections for the district as a whole. These projections are tentatively scheduled to be presented to the School Board in January.

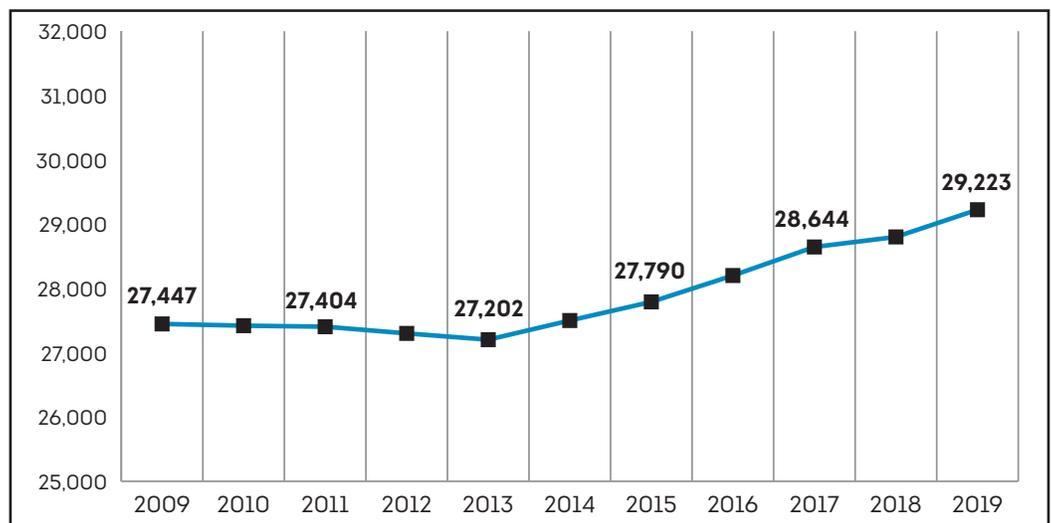
The largest class in the district this year is ninth grade, with 2,269 students, and the smallest is grade 12, with 1,947 students. The breakdown by level shows that on Oct. 1, 2019, the district had:

- 12,390 elementary school students (grades K-5), an increase of 134 students from last year;
- 6,621 middle school students (grades 6-8), an increase of 34;
- 8,629 high school students (grades 9-12), an increase of 96;
- 1,029 students in center-based special education programs, an increase of 45, and
- 554 students in early childhood special education, an increase of 39 students from last year.

Students of color represent 38 percent of total enrollment, up 1 percent and 4 percent higher than the state average last year. Sixty-two percent of students are white, 12 percent black, 10 percent Hispanic, 8 percent Asian, 0.3 percent American Indian, 0.1 percent Pacific Islander and 7 percent reported they are more than one race.

Students who qualify to receive English Learner (EL) services represent 8 percent of total enrollment, up slightly from last year and the same as the state average.

District 196 Enrollment History, 2009-19



Stay informed about School Board meetings and actions

The District 196 School Board meets on the second and/or fourth Monday of each month, beginning at 6 p.m., at Dakota Ridge School in Apple Valley. The public is welcome to attend board meetings and encouraged to stay informed of board actions.

Regular board meetings for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year are scheduled for Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 9, April 13, May 11, and June 8 and 22.

The board occasionally holds special meetings on other days and at other locations in the district. Times and locations of all board meetings are posted at district schools and on the School Board page of the district website. Video of all regular board meetings is available on the website the morning following each meeting.



Family fun at Black Hawk Middle School

Members of the Islam family enjoyed an ice cream treat during Family Fun Night at Black Hawk Middle School this fall. The event offered families an opportunity to meet and socialize with each other and enjoy a variety of games, activities and treats. Pictured with their mother, **Tasia**, are (left to right): **Safiya**, a second grader at Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science; **Zaynab**, a sixth grader at Black Hawk, and **Zahra**, an eighth-grade student at Black Hawk.

Board approves proposed property tax levy for 2020

In September, the School Board approved a proposed property tax levy increase of 1.5 percent for taxes payable in 2020. Based on calculations by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), the district's maximum proposed levy for payable 2020 property taxes is \$96,771,258, which is \$1.5 million or 1.5 percent more than the current levy of \$95,300,391.

The maximum levy limitation is calculated by MDE for each public school district in the state. By law, the final levy amount may not be greater than the proposed levy, except for adjustments made by the state and operating levy increases that are approved by voters.

The proposed tax levy does not include the operating levy increase approved by district voters in the Nov. 5 school district election. The additional \$19 million from the operating levy will be included in the final property tax levy, which will be certified by the School Board following a truth-in-taxation hearing at the Dec. 9 board meeting. The tax impact of the operating levy is not included in property tax notices Dakota County mailed to property owners in mid-November because of the short time between the election and the date the notices were mailed.

Local property taxes represent approximately 20 percent of operating revenues District 196 will receive this year. The other sources are state aids and credits (74 percent), federal aid (3 percent) and the remaining 3 percent from other sources such as self-insurance, gifts, donations and miscellaneous revenues such as food service fees, activity fees and admissions.

Current and historical budget information online

Budget information for the 2019-20 school year and previous nine years is available on the Finance Department page of the district website at District196.org. The 2019-20 preliminary budget includes an introductory section that summarizes the district budget in user-friendly language.

District 196 once again recognized for excellence in financial reporting

For the 17th year in a row, District 196 has earned the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO).

The certificate of excellence is the highest recognition of school district financial operations offered by ASBO, a professional organization with more than 6,000 members. The program reviews and critiques district accounting practices as represented in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and recognizes school districts that meet or exceed the program's high standards for financial reporting and accountability. Fewer than 1,000 school districts nationally apply for the Certificate of Excellence each year.

"This award represents a significant achievement and reflects your commitment to transparency and high-quality financial reporting," said ASBO International Executive Director **David Lewis**.

District 196 communities are among lowest taxed large cities in Minnesota

Of the 31 Minnesota cities with populations of 30,000 or greater in 2019, the four with the lowest tax rates are all District 196 communities and a fifth is in the lowest 10.

According to fiscal year 2019 county net tax capacity reports for Minnesota counties with at least one city of 30,000 residents or more, the 10 cities with the lowest tax rates are (District 196 communities in bold): 1. **Eagan** (lowest); 2. **Apple Valley**; 3. **Lakeville**; 4. **Burnsville**; 5. Woodbury; 6. Plymouth; 7. Edina; 8. Mankato; 9. Cottage Grove, and 10. **Inver Grove Heights**. Rates include total taxes (county, city and school district).

Rosemount has comparably low taxes but is not on this list because the population is fewer than 30,000.

District 196 students outscore ACT averages

District 196 students scored higher than the state and national averages on the ACT college admissions test in 2019, according to results released Oct. 30.

The average composite score for District 196 students is 23.0 out of a possible 36. The district average is 2.3 points higher than the national average of 20.7 and 1.6 points higher than the Minnesota average of 21.4, which is highest among the 17 states where more than 95 percent of all students took the test.

Since 2016, Minnesota law requires that all high school juniors have an opportunity to take a college entrance exam during the school day. In District 196, 2,089 students in the graduating class of 2019 took the ACT at least once.



Eastview High School business and marketing teacher **Ericka Phelps** explained an expense to a group of her students during the Wings Financial Reality Fair.

Students learn financial literacy during 'Reality Fair'

Eastview High School students received a dose of financial reality this fall participating in a "Reality Fair" sponsored by Wings Financial. Alongside credit union advisors and high school staff, students navigated through various life milestone stations meant to educate them about the importance of fiscal responsibility.

Business and marketing teacher **Ericka Phelps** teaches five sections of an elective called money management. In the course, students study a variety of financial topics such as saving and investing, retirement planning and credit cards. She said the reality fair is a way to expose her students to life from a financial perspective.

"The biggest benefit for high school students is to see the cost of things," Phelps said. "The reality is life costs money, and if students want to be financially successful, it's imperative they understand that so they can prepare for their future."

At the fair, each student received a folder assigning them a career, providing family information and a worksheet

to guide them through the different life milestone stations. Based on their income, students navigate buying or renting housing, how much to spend at the grocery store, paying utilities and other bills, even spinning the wheel of fate. Seniors **Mackenzie** and **Mackayla Chisholm** both had stable employment as part of their experience but found the cost of groceries and daycare to be the most eye opening.

"I think this is really helpful because I didn't realize how much we actually spend on things we need and things we may not need," Mackenzie said. "It all adds up, even the little things."

Eastview is the second District 196 high school to host the Wings Financial Reality Fair. Last year, Apple Valley High School offered the experience to students.

"I want my students to walk away from this experience with the understanding of why financial planning is key," Phelps said. "If they start early they can live a financially stable life in no matter what career path they choose."



Orange is for unity

Students all across District 196, including Woodland Elementary School (above), celebrated Unity Day Oct. 23 in recognition of National Bullying Prevention Month. A wave of orange could be seen throughout the district, as schools put up kindness trees, held all-school assemblies, participated in activities and learned how to be advocates for kindness.

Bilingual students can earn college credits

High school seniors who can demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English can earn recognition on their transcript and credits at a Minnesota state college or university as part of the state's Bilingual/Multilingual Seals and World Language Proficiency Certificate program.

The program was established to recognize the unique advantages of being a bilingual or multilingual speaker. Students who are bilingual are more culturally and linguistically competent and better prepared for a college or career experience with a global perspective.

"Being multilingual opens doors to people, places and opportunities that can otherwise be out of reach," said **Elizabeth Perona**, a world languages teacher at Eastview High School. "Through this program students have extra motivation to increase their proficiency in the languages spoken in their homes and communities, as well as those learned in the world languages classroom."

To earn this recognition, seniors must be assessed in reading, writing, listening and speaking in a language other than English. Students are scored in all four areas based on proficiency guidelines established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

- **World Language Proficiency Certificates** are awarded for students who score at the intermediate low level in a language other than English. Students can receive up to two semesters of college credit.
- **Gold Bilingual or Multilingual Seals**

are awarded for students who score at the intermediate high level in a language other than English and earn English language arts credits. Students can receive up to three semesters of college credit per language.

- **Platinum Bilingual or Multilingual Seals** are awarded for students who score at the advanced low level in a language other than English and earn English language arts credit or proficiency. Students can receive up to four semesters of college credit per language.

During the 2018-19 school year, 187 District 196 seniors earned recognition on their transcripts, representing 81 percent of students who took the assessments. These included 12 platinum bilingual seals, 52 gold bilingual seals and 123 world language proficiency certificates.

High school seniors interested in participating in the program during the 2019-20 school year should speak with their counselor, world languages teacher, English Learner teacher or cultural family advocate for more information. Dates for the bilingual exams are April 7 for students at Apple Valley, Eagan and Eastview high schools, March 12 for students at Rosemount High School and March 17 for students at the School of Environmental Studies. Students can register for the exams through Feb. 17 using FeePay.

Proficiency level information and practice exams are available at ACTFL.org.

Donations to District 196 Foundation support students

The District 196 Foundation eliminates barriers to learning by ensuring students have consistent access to food, books to keep them reading during the summer and instruments so they can participate in band.

A \$215 donation provides a child with weekend food for a year; a \$30 donation provides 10 age-appropriate books for a child, and a \$25 donation provides

a refurbished instrument for a child who cannot afford to rent or buy one.

To make your tax-deductible donation, visit www.district196foundation.org or send a check payable to The District 196 Foundation, 15180 Canada Ave., Rosemount, MN 55068. For more information, call Community Education Director **Khia Brown** at 651-423-7720.

High schools have revised schedules for ACT testing

District 196 students in grades 9 and 12 will have a flexible learning day at home on Tuesday, April 7, due to ACT testing for students in grades 10 and 11 that will take place at Apple Valley, Eagan, Eastview and Rosemount high schools that day.

On April 7, all students in grade 11 will be offered the opportunity to take the ACT test during the school day, in accordance with state law. Students in grade 10 will also be expected to be at school April 7 to take the PreACT test. Both tests will be offered at no cost to students. The ACT is the primary admissions test for students attending colleges in the Midwest. The PreACT is a college-readiness test that measures achievement in English, math, reading and science, as well as students' career interests and whether they are on track to pursue their goals after high school.

The tests will take approximately five hours to administer. Students in grades 10 and 11 will have the option to eat lunch and remain at school until the end of the day or can leave school after they have completed testing. High school bus routes will run on a normal schedule on April 7.

In order to provide an optimal testing environment and free up additional teachers needed to proctor the tests, students in grades 9 and 12 will not attend school on April 7, but will be expected to engage in a flexible learning day. Teachers will provide students with assignments to complete that day utilizing Schoology, the district's learning management system. Students will be able to contact teachers for assistance during designated times during the day when they are not proctoring tests. An optional quiet work environment will be provided at school for students in grades 9 and 12 who wish to be at school that day.

Students receiving center-based special education services will either participate in one of the tests, engage in the flexible learning day, or attend a regular schedule of center-based classes on April 7.

Applications to attend SES due December 16

Students interested in enrolling at the School of Environmental Studies (SES) for the 2020-21 school year must complete an online application by Dec. 16. A link to the application is available at www.sesmn.org.

SES is a magnet school for high school juniors and seniors located adjacent to the Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley.

Informational meetings for all current sophomores will be held the first week of December at their high schools. Students will also have an opportunity to tour SES during the school day.

Informational meetings for interested high school students and their parents will be held Dec. 11 and 12, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. both nights; attend only one meeting. For more information, call the school at 952-431-8750.

District serves students who are homeless

Children who are living in a shelter, hotel/motel, car, or sharing housing with relatives or friends due to a lack of or loss of housing may be eligible to receive educational assistance under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Students identified as homeless are provided transportation, free or reduced-price school meals and information about state-assisted insurance coverage.

During the 2018-19 school year, District 196 assisted 210 students identified as homeless, representing 136 families. That is down slightly from 213 students the previous year.

Persons assisting a homeless student in District 196 can receive more information by contacting **Nandi Rieck**, federal and state programs coordinator, at 651-423-7719, or any school social worker, nurse or counselor.



Some of this year's Red Pine Elementary School Health Heroes are pictured with (left to right) School Board Member **Craig Angrimson**, Red Pine Principal **Drew Goeldner**, School Board Chairperson **Jackie Magnuson** and Superintendent **Mary M. Kreger**.

Health Heroes help keep Red Pine students feeling good

Red Pine Elementary students know that an important component of consistent attendance is a healthy lifestyle. To promote health and wellness, fifth-grade students helped create the Health Heroes group. Along with guidance from school nurse **Danna Steffen**, the students are keeping their fellow classmates feeling well and in class.

The initiative has grown in popularity from the initial group of eight interested students when it started in 2016 to more than 50 students who applied to participate this year. Steffen said the goal of Health Heroes is to teach students how to understand what their bodies are telling them and how to fix it so they don't have to miss a day of learning.

"I am over the moon when I see the students taking the initiative to understand the signs of what their body may need," she said. "When I see the students being independent in their self-care, as a public health nurse, I am extremely proud."

As part of their job, the Health Heroes maintain mobile carts stocked with general health and wellness items such as bandages, water cups, tissues and hand sanitizer. Steffen said the carts are placed around the school and are available for students to use anytime. The carts help reduce the time a student would spend waiting in the nurse's office and encourages independent care.

"Students have also made videos on brushing teeth, washing hands, drinking water, eating healthy, how to apply a bandage and what to do if you have a stomach ache or headache," she explained. "They have also educated Red Pine students on when a visit (to the nurse's office) is needed."

The Health Heroes concept has inspired other schools to take on the initiative. Recently, Steffen helped school nurse **Deb Neutz** implement the program at Diamond Path Elementary School of International Studies. The long-term goal is to bring the program to more elementary schools across the district and increase students' knowledge of the importance of being healthy and maintaining consistent attendance.

"Elementary schools are a great place for Health Heroes," Steffen said.

This year's Health Heroes are **Ben Clemen**, **Wyatt Proshek**, **Noah Hansen**, **Addison Lusk**, **Nick Garnsworthy**, **Estella Garcia**, **Lizzie Casby** and **Callie Lanzen**.

Eastview High running coach pushes student rider to Twin Cities Marathon finish

Lifelong distance runner **Tom Sharp** is no stranger to the challenges of running a marathon. The 26.2 mile-trek is one the Eastview High School cross-country and track and field coach has completed several times before. But this year's running of the Twin Cities Marathon was a more rewarding challenge than previous marathons, as he crossed the finish line pushing junior **Ryan Costley**.

Ryan, 16, and Sharp were one of three marathon teams that included a rider pushed in a specially designed wheelchair. Ryan has a rare neurodegenerative disorder called ataxia telangiectasia, or Louis-Bar Syndrome, which has required him to use a wheelchair since he was in elementary school. Despite his diagnosis, Ryan is an active student-athlete, participating with the Dakota United Hawks adaptive sports.

The inspiration to run with an adapted athlete came after Sharp saw a story about **Peter Klein**, a fellow long-distance runner who pushes wheelchairs during marathons to raise awareness of various causes.

"The foundation of our team at Eastview is all about giving back to the



Eastview High School teacher **Tom Sharp** and junior **Ryan Costley** were all smiles on race day.



Eastview High School track and field and cross-country coach **Tom Sharp** pushes one of his students, **Ryan Costley**, across the finish line at the Twin Cities Marathon on Oct. 6.

community and finding ways to include others in what we do," Sharp said. "It's a big thing for me to teach my kids about inclusion and service to others."

After contacting Klein this summer, the two registered for the Twin Cities Marathon, received approval to run with riders and began training. They coordinated with the nonprofit myTEAM TRIUMPH, which provides persons with disabilities opportunities to participate in athletic competitions alongside an able-bodied athlete. Sharp focused his attention on athletes from the Dakota United Hawks and discovered that Ryan would be in his chemistry class this fall.

"I knew I had to push Ryan," Sharp said. "He is a stand-out student in my class. He's an amazing kid, such a smart kid, and I knew he would have a blast."

Klein was paired with recent Apple Valley High School graduate **Kyle Jackson**. Heavy rain and thunderstorms earlier in the weekend delayed some events, but that didn't dampen the excitement for Sunday's race. Ryan's parents, his brother and sister, friends and fellow classmates all lined the race route to cheer him on.

"It started out as a very chilly morning," said Ryan's mom, **Sue Costley**, "but around mile marker 14 the day start-

ed to warm up. Ryan told me that Mr. Sharp knew a lot of people along the way. Ryan saw his longtime friend Evan, some high school teachers, even the Eastview girls' track team."

The pair fielded high-fives and cheers the entire race. Shortly after mile 20, Sharp said fatigue started to kick in, but he only had one goal: getting Ryan a finisher's medal. Four hours and 42 minutes after they began, Sharp and Ryan, with arms in the air, crossed the finish line in front of the Capitol.

"Now Ryan has this incredible experience of being part of our running community," Sharp said. "And why shouldn't he have this experience? I'm just the power behind the wheelchair."

As part of their participation, they raised funds for Special Olympics and myTEAM TRIUMPH. Sharp is already prepping for the 2020 Twin Cities Marathon and has hinted that he might once again need a rider.

"We are still in awe of the dedication it took to train for this," Sue Costley said. "We can't imagine running for 26 miles and pushing a 125-pound person who, without him, would never get the chance to experience something like this. Mr. Sharp is like a real-life superhero. He has a superhuman heart with superhuman strength and endurance."

District students earned \$3.1 million in U of M credits in 2018-19

During the 2018-19 school year, District 196 high school students who participated in the College in the Schools (CIS) program earned a combined 6,185 college credits valued at more than \$3.1 million.

Students who participate in the CIS program earn college credits for taking advanced courses at their high school that are taught by their high school teachers. Last year, 870 students from the five District 196 high schools registered for at least one CIS course.

The 870 participating students registered for 1,455 CIS courses. Rosemount High School led with 495 course registrations, Eagan High School had 346, Eastview High School had 340, Apple Valley High School had 251 and the School of Environmental Studies had 23. More than 95 percent of all registrations resulted in a grade of C or better to earn college credit.

The 6,185 credits earned by District 196 students in 2018-19 is 443 fewer than the previous year. At the 2018-19 U of M tuition rate of \$502.25 per credit, the 6,185 credits are valued at \$3,106,416. The school district paid the university \$210,975 (\$145 per course) for the students to take these college-credit courses at their high schools last year.

CIS is one of several opportunities available for District 196 students to earn college credit while attending classes at their high school. Others include Advanced Placement courses and tests, and concurrent enrollment agreements with specific colleges, community colleges and technical schools.

Magnet school applications being accepted for 2020-21

Parents interested in having their child attend a District 196 magnet school for the 2020-21 school year must submit an application by Jan. 8 to be considered for enrollment at one of the district's five elementary magnet schools and by Feb. 12 for Valley Middle School of STEM. The elementary and middle school applications are available at District196.org/magnetschools.

Magnet schools offer parents increased choice in their child's education by providing a concentrated focus that offers innovative ways to meet students' learning goals through a particular theme. Magnet schools still teach the district's core curriculum in the areas of science, math, language arts and social studies.

The five elementary magnet schools are Cedar Park Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) School in Apple Valley; Diamond Path Elementary School of International Studies in Apple Valley; Echo Park Elementary School of Leadership, Engineering and Technology in Burnsville; Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science in Eagan, and Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences in Eagan.

District 196 offers a K-12 STEM pathway that includes Cedar Park and Echo Park elementary schools for grades K-5, Valley Middle School of STEM for grades 6-8 and Apple Valley High School for grades 9-12.

Parents can learn more about magnet school opportunities during spotlight events held at each school during the application period. For information on dates and times, contact your school of choice or visit the website.

Enrollment at magnet schools is determined by lottery and is limited to space available at each school and grade level. Students residing in the district who are selected for magnet school enrollment receive transportation if they live more than one mile from the elementary magnet school they will attend or more than one and one-half miles from Valley Middle School of STEM.

The elementary magnet school lottery will be held after the Jan. 8 application deadline. Parents of students selected for enrollment will be notified by the end of January and will be asked to confirm their child's enrollment for the 2020-21 school year. The lottery for Valley Middle School of STEM will be held after the Feb. 12 application deadline and parents of students selected for enrollment will be notified by the end of February. Students not selected for enrollment in the lotteries will be notified and placed on waiting lists.

More information about the magnet schools and the application process is available at District196.org/magnetschools or by calling **Tony Eatchel**, magnet schools and innovative programs teacher on special assignment, at 651-423-7810.

Donated instruments help make Band For All successful

In 2007, a group of instrumental music teachers in District 196 began an effort to collect gently used instruments that could be used by students who could not otherwise afford to participate in band. The community responded with an impressive 80 instruments donated at the first Band for All benefit held that spring.

To date, more than 2,000 District 196 students have been able to participate in the instrumental music program because they had access to a donated instrument through Band for All. To continue to provide the same opportunities to the next group of students, Band for All is in need of more instruments. District residents and alumni are asked to consider donating a gently used instrument so a young student may begin band next summer. All instruments are accepted; flutes and clarinets are always a need.

Monetary donations are also accepted and used to pay for instrument repairs and supplies for the students who use them. Checks should be made out to "District 196 Band For All." Donations are accepted at Scott Highlands Middle School, c/o **Michelle Hoff**, 14011 Pilot Knob Rd., Apple Valley, MN 55124. If you wish to receive a donation letter for tax purposes, include your name, address and phone number on a piece of paper and place it inside each instrument case.

Oak Ridge receives 'Hometown Grant' from Minnesota Vikings and Midwest Dairy

Students and staff at Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences hosted special guests Oct. 1 in recognition of the school's commitment to being active and staying healthy.

Viktor the Viking, former Minnesota Vikings center **Matt Birk** and **Lisa McCann** from Midwest Dairy presented Oak Ridge with a \$10,000 "Hometown Grant." Developed by Fuel Up to Play 60 and the NFL, the Hometown Grant program recognizes schools that implement innovative health and wellness programs. Now in its sixth year, the grant program allows each of the 32 NFL clubs, Fuel Up to Play 60 and local dairy representatives to provide funding to schools throughout the country.

The grant allowed Oak Ridge to purchase a new milk cooler and a Vita-mix blender for introducing nutritious smoothies to students. Along with the new equipment, the event was also a celebration of the school's dedication to physical activity. Students participate in regular walks around the campus, push-up challenges and take education out of the classroom into their outdoor learning spaces.

"It is wonderful for our nutrition services and Oak Ridge Elementary staff to be recognized," said **Spencer Fischer**, coordinator of the district's Food and Nutrition Services Department. "The efforts the staff is making to provide nutritious breakfast will fuel students as they start their day. The collaboration between our nutrition services team and the curriculum team here benefit all our students."



The staff and students at Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences were awarded a \$10,000 "Hometown Grant" from Midwest Dairy and the Minnesota Vikings to continue their health and wellness efforts. **Viktor the Viking** and former Vikings center **Matt Birk** celebrated with the school Oct. 1.

More than 750 students earn AP scholar honors

The College Board recognized 766 District 196 high school students for their performance on Advanced Placement (AP) course exams taken during the 2018-19 school year.

District high schools offer 24 different AP courses which have been audited and approved by the College Board, a nonprofit organization of colleges, universities, secondary schools and higher education institutions focused on college readiness programs. Students who complete an AP course can take an optional exam and earn college credit, depending on their score on the exam and admission requirements at the college or university they attend. An AP exam score of 3 or higher (on a scale of 1 to 5) earns credit at many of the nation's colleges and universities.

There are four different levels of AP scholar recognition that are defined



by the scores received and the number of exams taken during a student's high school career. The top designation is National AP Scholar, which recognizes students who received an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more exams. Forty-eight District 196 students were named National AP Scholars last year. The other designations are AP Scholar with Distinction, AP Scholar with Honor and AP Scholar.

To see the names of all 766 AP scholars in District 196 last year, go to District196.org, click on News in the About section and find the news release dated Sept. 10.



Former Vikings player **Matt Birk** shares his anti-bullying message with students.

Congratulations!

A sampling of recent student and staff achievements in academics, arts and athletics

Eastview High School students **Rebecca Downs**, **Akansha Kamineni** and **Rhea Rajvansh** are three of the 25 Minnesota students selected to receive the 2019 Target Women in Science and Technology EPIC Awards this fall. The award is given to young female scholars who embody the EPIC mission of engaged, passionate, innovative and curiosity in STEM fields. These young women are also active in their communities and are making a positive difference.

The Rosemount High School girls' soccer team earned the Section 3AA championship title and a trip to the state tournament as the No. 3 seed. They bested Champlin Park High School in the consolation bracket and took home the Class 2A third-place title.

The Eagan High School volleyball team capped off an undefeated regular season with a thrilling second-place finish in the Class 3A state tournament. This is the third year in a row the Wildcats have been runner-up.

Eastview High School senior **AJ Green** placed third at state cross-country championships, helping the Lightning take sixth overall.

The Rosemount High School football team was named the 2019 section champions and earned a spot in the 6A state tournament. They made it to the quarterfinal game after upsetting Eden Prairie in overtime.

Apple Valley High School junior **Andrew Meyer** earned a perfect score on the ACT test. The highest composite score is 36. Less than one-half of 1 percent of all test takers earn this score.

Kartik Saravanapandi, a seventh-grader at Black Hawk Middle School, earned the top overall score on PSAT in the state of Minnesota.

The Rosemount High School Irish competition cheer team qualified for the national competition in February 2020. They will compete at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando.



Eagan's Orr captains U.S. volleyball team to world title

Eagan High School junior **Kennedi Orr** (#7) reacted to a point during a match at the 2019 Federation of International Volleyball U18 World Championships in Cairo, Egypt in September. Orr was captain of the U.S. team, which won the championship, and was named Best Setter in the tournament. Last year as a sophomore Orr was named the 2018-19 Gatorade Minnesota Volleyball Player of the Year. She amassed 411 assists, 380 kills and 230 digs in helping lead Eagan to the Class AAA championship match.

Forty-two students named all-state musicians for 2019-20

Forty-two District 196 high school students were named all-state musicians by the Minnesota Music Educators Association (MMEA) for the 2019-20 school year.

Apple Valley High School students are **Nora Bengtson** and **Maquanet Collins**, Symphonic Band; **Andrew Meyer** and **Sarah Navratil**, Jazz Band; **Alex Bengtson**, **Laurel Carter** and **Maya Ricard**, Concert Band; **Kylie Hayes** and **Jonah Johnson**, Mixed Choir; **Frank Knier**, Tenor Bass Choir; **Julia Lee**, Orchestra, and **Idalys Raposo Cardona**, Soprano Alto Choir.

Eagan High School students are **Olivia Johnson**, Symphonic Band; **Jacob Berran**, Concert Band; **Neha Nayak**, **Will New** and **Audrey Parker**, Mixed Choir, and **Grace Park**, Soprano Alto Choir.

Eastview High School students are **Gabriel Mahlen** and **Sarah Titcombe**, Symphonic Band; **Ian Kenney**, Jazz Band; **Megan Beyer**, **Jordan Gressman**, **Gillian Hitchcock** and **Henry Rieffer**, Concert Band; **Svea Hagen** and **Christopher Hahn**, Mixed Choir; **Alison Hitchcock**, **Kyra O'Malley** and **Thor Reimann**, Orchestra, and **Charlotte Krekeler** and **Abigail Reis**, Soprano Alto Choir.

Rosemount High School students are **Aidan Firchow**, Symphonic Band; **Nathan Boucher**, **Ava Perry** and **Audrey Stenger**, Concert Band; **Henry Buck**, **Ryan Niedenthal** and **Luke Rexing**, Mixed Choir; **Matthew Bell**, Tenor Bass Choir, and **Patricia Hernandez** and **Amy-Marie Rodriguez**, Soprano Alto Choir.



Most of the district's National Merit semifinalists, commended students and National Hispanic Recognition Program honorees posed for a photo together after being recognized at the Oct. 28 School Board meeting.

Forty-five seniors earn National Merit Scholarship and College Board recognition

Forty-five District 196 seniors are receiving special recognition this fall for scores they achieved on a national standardized test taken last year as juniors.

Sixteen of the 45 students are semifinalists in the 2019-20 National Merit Scholarship Program, 26 are National Merit commended students and three were selected for the National Hispanic Recognition Program. The 16 National Merit semifinalists from District 196 are:

- **Christina Monsen** of Apple Valley High;
- **Luke Anderson, Jacob Berran** and **Joseph Rollie** of Eagan High;
- **Sanat Iyer, Ian Kenney, Benjamin Kupinski, Jiayang Tang, Rohan Vij** and **Margaret Wang** of Eastview High, and
- **Cecilia Ellis, Regan Hansen, Charles Huang, Tanner Morrison, Ryan Niedenthal** and **Akash Shiri** of Rosemount High.

Students are selected for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program based on their scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which they take as juniors. Semifinalists rank in the top 1 percent of the more than 1.5 million juniors at 21,000 U.S. high schools who took the test last year. The semifinalists may submit additional information to be considered for selection as a finalist. Students named National Merit finalists next spring will compete for some 7,600 scholarships totaling more than \$31 million awarded by businesses, colleges and universities, and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Students whose scores on the PSAT/ NMSQT rank them in the top 5 percent of students nationwide receive letters of commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. In District 196, the following 26

seniors are 2019-20 National Merit commended students:

- **Nichole Stevens** of Apple Valley High;
- **Lily Bensen, Christine DeMarchis, Olivia Dykes, Victoria James, Olivia Johnson, Lia Lemieux, Natalie Merrill, Tatiana Pereda** and **Logan Pfaltzgraff** of Eagan High;
- **Megan Beyer, Madison Bisek, Annalise Chapdelaine, Zachary Clifford, Harita Duggirala, Anish Dulla, Nikhil Kapur, Eva Lundgreen, Kyra O'Malley, Matthew Rajala, Sophia Sahota, Anushri Tiwari** and **Brendan Wilhelm** of Eastview High, and
- **Heba Abuad, Brenna Buck** and **Annelise Wier** of Rosemount High.

The College Board also uses PSAT scores to recognize Black and Hispanic students. **Rachael Barela, Anna Gonzalez** and **Darby O'Leary** of Rosemount High School were selected for the 2019-20 National Hispanic Recognition Program.

'Snow-day' decisions based on safety of students and staff, and communicated broadly

With the arrival of winter comes the possibility of school cancellations or delayed starts due to inclement weather. District leaders understand these decisions impact many families throughout the district who need to arrange care for their children when school is not in session.

The over-riding concern in making these decisions is the safety of students, staff and others in the community. Several factors are considered, including road conditions and visibility, snow depth, wind chill, the weather forecast for the remainder of the day and the actions of other districts in our area. The superintendent makes these decisions based on what is best for all children in the district. If parents are ever concerned about sending their child to school because of weather conditions, it is always the parents' choice to keep their child at home.

If the decision is made to either delay or cancel school, the information will be communicated to district employees and parents via an early-morning phone call from the superintendent using the School Messenger mass notification service to which the district subscribes.

District staff also make separate calls to notify Spanish- and Somali-speaking families.

In addition to the phone calls, the cancellation or delay will be communicated in the following ways:

- A pop-up message on the district website at District196.org (this is where information appears first) and on the district's Facebook page and Twitter feed;
- On all four Twin Cities network affiliate television stations and WCCO-AM (830) radio. Look/listen for "Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools," and
- On the district information line recording at 651-423-7777.

If school is canceled, all daytime and after-school community education activities, including early childhood and Adult Basic Education (ABE) are also canceled, as well as all elementary and middle school after-school and evening activities. YMCA School-Age Care (SAC) will be canceled when there is a snow-related cancellation. (Note: SAC will be held at pre-determined locations if there is a temperature-related school cancellation.) Decisions about whether to hold evening high school and

community education activities are communicated on the district website and information line.

If the opening of school is delayed, all school buses operate on a normal, but two-hour delayed schedule and the following activities are canceled: morning and afternoon early childhood special education (ECSE) and early childhood family education (ECFE) classes, morning and afternoon Connections Preschool classes and morning community education activities, including SAC and ABE.

If severe weather develops during the school day, schedules may change and would be communicated via the School Messenger service and on the district website, social media, information line and in the media.

Students are released early from school only in the event of an emergency. To prepare for a possible early dismissal for weather or an emergency, parents are encouraged to develop a plan with their child, keeping in mind that in certain emergency situations students may be immediately evacuated and may not be able to go back into the school to get keys or other belongings from their lockers.

Parents and adult students may request intradistrict school transfers by December 15

Parents and guardians may apply to have their child attend a different school within the district (intradistrict transfer) or a school in a different district (interdistrict transfer) for a number of reasons.

In order to balance enrollment between schools, the district limits transfers to any particular school to building capacity plus 5 percent for district residents (intradistrict transfer) and building capacity for non-district residents (interdistrict transfer).

Intradistrict Transfers

Elementary school students (grades K-5) may request a transfer from one District 196 elementary school to another based on daycare, intent to change residency or parent/guardian request. If one of the district's five elementary magnet schools is

requested, parents must submit an elementary magnet school application by Jan. 8, 2020 to be considered in the lottery selection process.

Secondary school students (grades 6-12) may request a transfer from one District 196 secondary school to another based on intent to change residency, continued enrollment of an 11th or 12th grade student, or parent/guardian/adult student request. If Valley Middle School of STEM is requested, parents must submit a magnet school application by Feb. 12, 2020 to be considered in the lottery.

Intradistrict transfer applications for non-magnet schools are due by Dec. 15 to be considered for enrollment in the next school year. For an application or more information, contact your child's school or Student Information at 651-423-7640.

Interdistrict Transfers

Students living outside the district may apply to enroll in District 196 schools through the state's Enrollment Options Program. Nonresident students are encouraged to apply to the district by Jan. 15 to be considered for enrollment in the following school year. Students who are accepted under the Enrollment Options Program will be permitted to remain in the district through grade 12, but will be assigned to schools that have space available.

Applications for enrollment under the Enrollment Options Program are available by calling Student Information at 651-423-7640.

District 196 students may also apply to attend school in a different district. For more information, contact the school district the student would like to attend.



Rosemount marching band is grand champion again

Rosemount High School marching band drum majors (left to right) **Jenna Gillich, Mackenzie Gordon, Johnathan Whaley, Kyle Springer** and **Claire Chumbley** posed with their trophy after being named grand champion at the Minnesota Youth in Music Marching Band Championships Oct. 12 at U.S. Bank Stadium. This was the 13th time Rosemount was named grand champion in the 15-year history of the event. Eastview High School also performed at this year's event and earned a third-place finish.

Tax deductions for qualifying educational expenses in 2019

All Minnesota families with dependent children in grades K-12 in public, private or home schools may qualify for a state K-12 education subtraction and/or credit for educational purchases in 2019. Both programs reduce the tax parents pay and could provide a larger refund when filing a 2019 Minnesota income tax return.

The **K-12 education subtraction** is available to all Minnesotans, regardless of income, who have children in grades K-12. Families can take a deduction of up to \$1,625 per qualifying child in grades K-6 and up to \$2,500 per qualifying child in grades 7-12, for qualifying educational expenses. To claim the K-12 education subtraction, complete Schedule M1M with your MN Form M1, Individual Income Tax Return.

The **K-12 education credit** is a refund (75 percent of paid and documented qualified expenses up to the maximum amounts) for families with up to two children and a federally adjusted gross household income of \$37,500 or less (add \$2,000 for every additional child). To claim the educational credit, complete Schedule M1ED and fill in your credit amount on the appropriate line of your Form M1.

Qualifying expenses that apply for either the subtraction or credit include instructor fees and tuition for classes or instruction taken outside the normal school day or school year; purchases of required materials for use during the normal school day; fees paid to others for transporting your child to and from school during the normal school day, and computer hardware for personal use in your home and educational software.

Qualifying expenses that apply only for the subtraction include instructor fees and tuition for classes taken during the regular school day or school year, such as private school tuition and tuition paid for college courses that satisfy high school graduation requirements.

Some expenses that do not qualify include travel expenses for overnight class trips, sports camps or lessons, tuition and expenses for preschool or post-high school classes, and monthly internet fees.

For information and assistance, go to the Department of Revenue website at www.revenue.state.mn.us or call 651-296-3781.

Join the District 196 team

District 196 has employment opportunities for the 2019-20 school year. For more information and to apply online, go to District196.org and click on "Employment" on the top right.

Substitute teacher rates are \$135 for a full day and \$78 for a half day. Applicants must have a current Minnesota teacher's license and must attend a substitute teacher orientation.

Substitute paraprofessionals are paid \$14 per hour. Applicants must be available Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. most weeks; be willing to work at multiple schools; pass a pre-employment physical and background check; complete online Personal Care Assistant training, and attend a clerical orientation.

Substitute school nurses are paid \$24 per hour. Applicants must be a licensed LPN or RN (preferred), be available weekdays during the school year and attend a substitute nurse orientation.

Substitute custodial positions pay \$13.20 per hour. Applicants must be available Monday through Friday, 3 to 11:30 p.m. most weeks; able to perform custodial duties, including lifting up to 50 pounds on a regular basis, and pass a pre-employment physical and background check. Previous custodial experience is preferred.

Bus drivers (substitute and part-time) earn \$18.38 per hour. Prefer individuals who are available for both morning and afternoon routes. Applicants must enjoy working with children, have a Minnesota driver's license with a good driving record and be able to lift/drag up to 125 pounds. The district provides training to obtain necessary licensure. Benefits are available to employees who work 23 or more hours per week.

Food service associates earn \$16.46 per hour (\$13.20 per hour starting wage for substitutes) plus a complimentary meal each shift. Regular and substitute positions are available, three to five hours per day. Applicants must have basic math, reading and writing skills, and be able to safely lift up to 40 pounds. Responsibilities include food preparation, meal sales and service, cashing and clean-up.



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Community Education



**It's Complicated:
Children, Social Media and
Mental Health**

Social networking, cell phones, and video games are game changers for youth and families. As parents and caregivers, we want our children to take advantage of incredible new digital opportunities but worry about the impact of too much screen time on our kids health, social skills, and school performance.

In this interactive and energizing presentation, Erin Walsh will use brain science, stories, and humor to explain how technology impacts mental health and wellness. Understand the key ingredients for wellness in the digital age and share practical strategies for nurturing these at home and more.

Erin Walsh, M.A., is a dynamic, knowledgeable speaker on brain development and raising resilient young people in the digital age. Erin was instrumental in the MediaWise movement with her father, Dr. David Walsh, for ten years at the National Institute on Media and the Family before creating Mind Positive Parenting together in 2010. Erin also teaches *Making Media*, *Making Change* to students at the Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs.

Join us Saturday, January 11, from 9-10:30 a.m. at Rosemount High School. Child care is available for ages 2-12. The event is free to attend, but please register to reserve your spot! Visit www.district196.org/ce or call 651-423-7920.

Looking for the ideal part-time job?



We're hiring!

Community Education is proud to serve the public with high-quality programs and services delivered by high-quality employees. We offer exciting jobs with people contact, convenient work locations and opportunities to grow and learn.

Building supervisors are responsible for public relations and building security of district schools during Community Education activities. These part-time positions offer flexible evening and weekend hours and a casual work environment.

We are always on the lookout for new instructors willing to share their expertise with the community. **Enrichment class instructors** are needed to teach classes for youth, adults or families.

It's cool to work at our pools! Youth, young adults and adults can work as **water safety assistants, swim instructors** and **lifeguards**. We offer employment opportunities for those ages 14 and older and if you don't have certification, we have a hands-on training program!

If you are interested in job opportunities, visit ce.district196.org/community/employment or email communityed@district196.org or call 651-423-7920.



♥ Valentine Party ♥

for children 10 years old or younger and their parents

Saturday, February 8, 2020 • 9:30-11:30 a.m.

\$5 per child at the door (max of \$15 per family)

Dakota Valley Learning Center

4679 144th Street West, Apple Valley

enjoy music and dancing • make a valentine, design a necklace or create a fun picture • get your face painted or apply a temporary tattoo • refreshments served



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