

APRIL 2020

The Vadnais Voice



Address - 3645 Centerville Rd., Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Phone (651)653-2858 **Fax** (651) 653-2860

Attendance (651) 653-2859 -

attendancevadnais@isd624.org

Emergency School Closing (651)407-7540

Website - www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/Vadnaisheights

Principal - sara.svir@isd624.org

Dear Vadnais Heights Families,

I'm sure many of you are familiar with the saying, "April showers bring May flowers." When I looked up the meaning of this saying I found the following, "A period of discomfort that can provide the basis for a period of happiness." I know that our community is in a time of *discomfort* because we are all dealing with significant changes, safety concerns, and for many there are worries around the health of family and friends as a result of the coronavirus. Even at your child's school there is *discomfort* because Distance Learning is unfamiliar and has resulted in many changes for your family. Nevertheless, just like the rain in April brings flowers in May there will be many new experiences, learning opportunities and your children will *bloom* as they participate and grow through Distance Learning.

As a parent you can expect to receive a Learning Board each week that will be sent to families on Seesaw Monday morning. Think of the Learning Board as the lesson plans and activities for that week. There will be a column for every subject (reading, math, writing, social studies, science, specialists and social emotional) and it will include instruction information as well as activities that are specific to your child's grade level. In addition, your class will have their Morning Meeting at the same time on Monday - Friday. We hope that students will be able to join the conversation live with their classroom teacher, through Google Meet, yet if they're not able to attend it will be recorded and available on Seesaw to view at your convenience.

It's important to know that the time commitment for Distance Learning is significantly different than attending school each day. Here are the guidelines for the average amount of student work time each day:

Kindergarten: 45 minutes - 1 hour

3rd Grade: 1.5 - 2.5 hours

1st & 2nd Grades: 1 - 2 hours

4th & 5th Grades: 2 - 3 hours

Although the time is reduced, our teachers are doing an amazing job preparing content that is specific to state standards. Our continued goal is for every student to demonstrate progress and growth and your child's attendance or participation is required. If you need help - please let us know.

Together let's make this a great April!
Sara Svir

Hmong: LUS CEEB TOOM! Yog koj xav tau
tsev kawm ntawv cov ntawv txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu rau Mas Lias Xyooj los yog Xw Xyooj. (651)
407-7623

Spanish: ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651)
407-7625.



Dates & Activities

Date	Activity
March 30	Distance Learning begins
April 2nd	<p style="text-align: center;">International Children's Book Day - Challenge: Read a book written by an International Author</p>
April 10th	<p style="text-align: center;">Encourage a Young Writer Day - Challenge: Have your child write/draw a story describing what they see in the clouds</p>
April 12th	
April 14th	<p style="text-align: center;">The Titanic Struck an Iceberg on this date in 1912 - Research and find pictures of this historic event</p>
April 22nd	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p style="text-align: center;">Earth Day -</p> <p>Challenge: Talk about Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and how your family can help our planet.</p> </div> </div>
April 26th	<p style="text-align: center;">Hug a Friend Day -</p> <p>Challenge: Encourage your child to come up with a way to safely connect with a friend other than hugging.</p>

Yearbooks-

We have ordered the Vadnais Heights Elementary yearbooks and they should arrive around June 1st. There has been a lot of interest in purchasing the yearbook for this unusual school year. Go to FeePay to preserve and pay for your copy today!



Distance Learning March 30 to May 4



The Governor announced Wednesday, March 25 that all Minnesota school districts must implement a Distance Learning period from March 30 to May 4. Until we can see each other in person again, hopefully on May 5, we are excited to connect remotely.

Distance learning is something we have been preparing for in White Bear Lake Area Schools since our initial Spring Break extension announced on March 13. There are many different ways to learn and you can find more information on [the district's website](#).



Preschool Program

A 4 year old preschool opportunity is available at Vadnais Heights Elementary for the 2020-21 school year. This is a program designed to support students who otherwise would not have access to preschool. Perhaps your child is learning English as a Second Language (ESL) or you have limited resources or transportation - this program will support ESL learners and families. Please contact 651-653-3100 for more information or the Vadnais Heights school office at 651-653-2858 for an application

2020 Kindergarten Enrollment

The district is currently accepting kindergarten enrollments for the 2020-21 school year. Families may register for the 2020-21 academic year in the following ways:

- Online enrollment - Enroll on the appropriate online enrollment link below:
 - Current families (those who already have student/s enrolled in the district), click here.
 - Brand new families (those who do not already have students enrolled in the district), click here.
 - Find instructions and a live link into the enrollment process here.
 - *For assistance, email parenttechhelp@isd624.org.*
- Paper Kindergarten enrollment packet - Find the enrollment packet here as a PDF. *Print off the forms, complete them, and return them to the Centralized Enrollment Office (District Center, 4855 Bloom Avenue, White Bear Lake) or any district elementary school.*
 - *Non-Resident Kindergarten Enrollment - White Bear Lake Area Schools accepts open enrollment, with district placement based upon availability. If you would prefer to complete a paper enrollment, you can fill out this enrollment packet.*

For additional information or assistance, please call the district's Centralized Enrollment Office at 651-407-7674.

- Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625.
- Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623



Thank You to Fresh Thyme

Our neighbors at Fresh Thyme grocery donated 500 bags which provided all of our families a way to get the learning supplies home. Thank you!



Class Selection Process

Vadnais staff members spend a great deal of time placing students in class groups for the next school year. Our primary concern is to establish productive, heterogeneous classrooms where each child can be provided with the opportunity to be

successful and challenged to do their best work. In doing this several factors are considered:

- Learning style of the student
- Consideration of all educational factors; academic and social are the primary determinants
- Heterogeneous groupings in all classrooms, factors considered include ethnic groups, gender, academic achievement, learning styles and discipline concerns
- Avoidance of possible personality problems
- Equal class sizes
- Recommendations from this year's teacher

Parent requests - If you'd like to share your child's learning style or teaching style that best meets the needs of your child, please submit this information, in writing, to the principal, sara.svir@isd624.org, by **April 24th**. **Please do not request a specific teacher** and know that our staff will make every effort to consider all factors when making student placements. If you do not submit a request, be assured that every child will be given care and consideration towards their placement.

Parents must be aware that the final responsibility and authority for all class placements rests with the principal. Consideration will be given to all factors noted above yet no assurances can be given that parental requests will be granted. Requests for placement for the next school year must be submitted to the principal by April 24th, 2020. Thank you.



Viktor's Quest to Stop Bullying, through the MN Vikings



Is your family moving or relocating?

In order to notify the district and determine class size for Vadnais' enrollment we are asking whether families are planning on moving or relocating. You only have to complete and return the form if your child will not be attending Vadnais Elementary school for the 2020-2021 school year or if you will have a new address in the fall.

Student Name _____

Grade this year _____

_____ My child will not be attending Vadnais next year. He/she will be attending at _____.

_____ We will have a new address.

It is _____

Comments: _____

PLEASE RETURN BY FRIDAY, MAY 8TH

Hmong: LUS CEEB TOOM! Yog koj xav tau tsev kawm ntawv cov ntawv txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu rau Mas Lias Xyooj los yog Xw Xyooj. (651) 407-7623

Spanish: ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625.

We Miss You!



Be Safe & Stay Well!

