

MAY 2020

# The Vadnais Voice



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**Emergency School Closing** (651)407-7540

**Website** - [www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/Vadnaisheights](http://www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/Vadnaisheights)

**Principal** - [sara.svir@isd624.org](mailto:sara.svir@isd624.org)

Dear Vadnais Heights Families:

The month of May is always action packed, exciting and filled with events that students, staff and families remember and treasure. This spring everything is a bit different yet there are still so many things for which I am thankful.

This week we celebrate Teacher Appreciation and I've always told my staff that everyone in our school is a teacher. Each and every one of the incredible people that I'm privileged to work with, have positively affected the lives of our students, the learning environment and the atmosphere and community in our school. Vadnais Heights Elementary is an amazing place for students to learn and grow and whether we're in the building or distance learning I know that your children are receiving the very best education because our staff is the very best!

VHES consistently has individuals and groups that volunteer to make our school better as we partner to best meet the needs of our students. Their pay is nonexistent and the work is hard yet we are grateful for their contributions of time, energy and the genuine care that they show our students. We weren't able to thank everyone in person yet we value their contributions and we extend our deepest gratitude.

Distance learning has become our new normal. Students have worked hard, with your support, to successfully master online learning. I know that some students have really enjoyed it yet the majority would prefer to have been in school. I am so proud of our students and grateful for every parent for persevering through these challenging times. During the last two weeks of this school year, our teachers will have a one to one conversation with each student. Teachers will ask students to share experiences, from distance learning, that they want to celebrate, challenges that made learning difficult for them, and they will set academic goals for next school year. Parents are welcome to be present yet you don't have to attend. We will not be giving grades this spring but we will share this information with the teachers your child will have next fall.

We are grateful for your feedback and we would appreciate it if you'd complete this [survey](#). Thank you!

Stay Safe & Be Well,  
Sara Svir

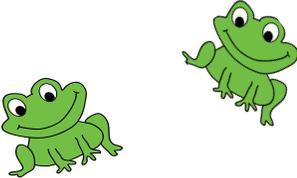
**Hmong:** LUS CEEB TOOM! Yog koj xav tautsev kawm ntawv cov ntawv txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu rau Mas Lias Xyooj los yog Xw Xyooj. (651) 407-7623

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





# Important Dates

Date	Activity
<p>May 5th -</p> <p>Challenge: Look up Cinco de Mayo and find out why it is celebrated.</p>	
<p>May 10th</p> <p>Celebrate Mom - Make breakfast, read together, go for a walk - whatever you do, have fun with Mom!</p>	
<p>May 13th</p> 	<p>Frog Jumping Day</p> <p>What is the best way to celebrate Frog Jumping Day?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Mark Twain's story "Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog"</li><li>• Also, we don't think Mark Twain would mind if you jumped like a frog or jumped a frog today.</li></ul> 
<p>May 25th</p> <p>No School</p> <p>Remembering &amp; Honoring All Who Served</p>	



A big congratulations and thank you to all who participated in and contributed to the American Heart Association challenge. Students at Vadnais Heights Elementary raised \$490.87 for this organization to help fund scientific research and education efforts. Way to Jump Rope for Heart!



## Lifetouch Composite Pictures

Lifetouch has decided that because of the extreme situation we are currently in, they will not be able to produce the composite classroom pictures for this year. ALL students will receive a free composite class picture going forward. Lifetouch hopes this will make up for the inconvenience of not getting one this school year.



**A special thank you to our Teacher Candidates; Jordan Anderson, Meredith Keller, Shelby Mielke and Tia Tumbleson, who have been with us this entire school year as part of their educational program through the University of MN. They have truly been a part of our staff and great additions to our school. We wish them all the best as they begin their careers in education.**



On May 4th we celebrated our staff with a food truck full of donuts and coffee. Only the best for the BEST!

Make Today Amazing

# PARADE - [Parade video](#)





# Preschool Program



A 4-year old preschool opportunity is available at Vadnais Heights Elementary for the 2020-2021 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.

# Nutrition Services

The 2020-2021 Free and Reduced Price Meal Application will be available ONLINE by August 1, 2020.

To see if you qualify, go to the White Bear Lake Area School website at [www.isd624.org](http://www.isd624.org) and follow the steps below:

1. At the top of the page look for the “Quick Links” box.
2. Scroll down to “Free/Reduced Lunch Application”
3. Once there, fill out the application and hit the “submit my application” button.

If you would like to have a paper copy of the application, Please call the District’s Nutrition Services Support Supervisor, Debra Kelley at (651) 407-7523

“This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider”



# Transportation Reminders

The Transportation Office staff is asking for your assistance with updating your student’s transportation information and with keeping that information current. We are better able to service your student and the other students who are transported when we have accurate information. If the current information for your student has changed, you can help by contacting the Transportation Office staff at (651) 407-7538 or at our e-mail address of [Transportation@isd624.org](mailto:Transportation@isd624.org) with the following information:

- Updated address and phone number changes
- Updated daycare information
- Updated transportation status

You can also use the District Website at [www.isd624.org](http://www.isd624.org) to fill out, print, and submit forms such as: Daycare Form, Decline Transportation Form. On the District website in the Transportation area you will find boundary maps, frequently asked questions, and information to assist you with reviewing bus safety with your students.





## Is Your Family Moving or Relocating?

We need your help to plan for the 2020-2021 school year. If your family is planning to move or relocate and will not be attending Vadnais Heights Elementary - PLEASE let us know in the main office at (651) 653-2858. Thank you for helping us!

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## Make a Difference! Experience life-changing growth as a Minnesota Reading Corps tutor at Vadnais Heights Elementary in 2020-2021!

Make a difference in the lives of Vadnais Heights Elementary Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students who struggle with reading by serving as a Minnesota Reading Corps tutor in 2020-21! Whether you want to explore a career in education, re-enter the workforce, or give back to your community, you can make a difference as a tutor.



As a tutor, you'll see a student's progress – in their test scores, in their other school work and in their confidence as they build their skills. Last year, Minnesota Reading Corps provided direct services to more than 30,000 children in more than 700 schools across the state. We're helping more kids reach their reading potential. And you can be part of it.

Minnesota Reading Corps Tutors receive extensive training and **support** from onsite coaches. Tutors are paid a **living allowance** and are eligible for up to an **education award** of up to \$5,800 to pay tuition or repay qualified student loans or pay tuition. Tutors 55 or older may gift the award to a child or grandchild. If you or someone you know might enjoy making a difference in the lives of Vadnais Heights Elementary children, learn how to get involved at [www.readingandmath.net](http://www.readingandmath.net). Positions start in August for the 2020-21 school year. Questions? Contact [recruitment@servetogrow.org](mailto:recruitment@servetogrow.org) or (866) 859-2825.



## What To Do with School Materials In Your Home or How Can I Get My Stuff that is Still at School...

- If you have books from our Learning Commons (Media Center) please bring them to school by Friday, May 22nd. Our office is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1-4 or you may leave items in the office foyer, on the cart, M-F from 8 AM-4 PM.
- If you have items to pick up, please message your child's teacher through Seesaw or email. Your child's teacher will let you know when the item(s) will be available in our school office or left for you to pick-up in the foyer of our school office.
- Students may keep Chromebooks and/or Hot Spots through the summer. We will collect these items in mid-August and we will share the details of that process at a later time.



\*\* If your family is moving and your child won't be attending White Bear Lake Schools in the fall, please return all school materials to our office by 6/5/2020.



### *Sicily Heim*



*Sicily attended Vadnais Heights from kindergarten until her passing, as a 5th grader, in November 2019. Many people have asked about making a donation to support the purchase of a memorial, at our school, in her name. If you'd like to contribute, you will be able to make a donation throughout the month of May on FeePay which may be found at [www.isd624.org/VadnaisHeights](http://www.isd624.org/VadnaisHeights). All donations are welcome; however, a \$5-10 donation is suggested. More information will be shared in the June issue of the Vadnais Voice.*

No School May 25th-  
Memorial Day



Last Day of School-  
June 5th

