Dear Community Members,

Thank you for supporting our schools and our mission to educate, prepare, and inspire our community of lifelong learners. To accommodate our increasing number of resident students at Wilshire Park Elementary School, the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District held a special election on September 7, 2017. The voters approved a ballot question to expand Wilshire Park Elementary, with a 67% approval rate (Yes: 1315 and No: 635). The additions will include classrooms, gymnasium, expanded cafeteria, bathrooms, larger media center, and a secured entrance.

The September special election allowed our school district to attract competitive bids for the project, begin construction earlier, and purchase bonds at a lower interest rate. The lower interest rate of 3.17% resulted in $2,151,000 in taxpayer savings over 20 years. A groundbreaking ceremony, pictured above, was held on October 30 and the construction at Wilshire Park Elementary began on November 20, 2017. The addition is scheduled to be completed by September 2018.

Recently, our commitment to the success of all learners was highlighted when Wilshire Park Elementary School was selected as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. Wilshire Park was one of eight schools in Minnesota to receive this recognition. Congratulations to the students, parents, staff, and our community on this extraordinary recognition.

Sincerely,
Robert Laney, Superintendent

St. Anthony Village High School’s Chamber Choir performed at the world premiere of The Lost Melody on November 5, 2017 which celebrated the 30 year relationship of St. Anthony Village and Salo, Finland, its Sister City. Based on the children’s story “The Lost Melody” by Eeva Tikka, the concert included music performed by St. Anthony Civic Orchestra and spoken narration.
After 39 years in education, Superintendent Robert Laney announced his plan to retire on June 30, 2018. The School Board formally accepted Mr. Laney’s retirement letter at the Board meeting on November 15, 2017. Mr. Laney has served as Superintendent of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District since 2012.

Superintendent Laney describes his six years in St. Anthony as interesting and enjoyable. In an email to district staff, Mr. Laney shared, “During my time here, I have had the pleasure and honor of working with wonderful people who are also excellent professionals. I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the great work you do with our young people every day.” Under the leadership of Mr. Laney, our District successfully passed a levy referendum in 2014, which renewed the operating levy and initiated a capital projects levy for curriculum and technology, and a bond referendum in 2017 to expand Wilshire Park Elementary School.

Mr. Laney has spent his career as a leader who champions the success of all students. Mr. Laney mentored several students at St. Anthony Village High School, encouraging them to pursue post secondary education, and writing letters of recommendation for colleges. Mr. Laney also developed relationships with preschoolers in the district and serves as a monthly guest reader. The only students in the district who refer to Mr. Laney as ‘Bob’ are our preschoolers who often announce Bob as “the President” or, at other times, “a grandpa in training.”

Before accepting the superintendency in St. Anthony, Mr. Laney spent 22 years in St. Louis Park as a building and district level administrator. In his tenure as Principal at St. Louis Park High School, Mr. Laney was instrumental in developing BARR (Building Assets Reducing Risks) to support the development of 9th graders to increase the retention of students in high school and their likelihood to graduate. The BARR Program has since been implemented nationwide, in 80 school districts in 13 states. In retirement, Mr. Laney plans to spend more time with his wife Susan, their two children Molly and Drew, and granddaughter Peyton Marie.

Superintendent Search Process

Superintendent Robert Laney announced his plan to retire on June 30, 2018, and the School Board formally accepted Mr. Laney’s retirement letter at the meeting on November 15, 2017. The School Board contracted with School Exec Connect, a superintendent search firm, to conduct the search for a new superintendent.

School Exec Connect consultants Dr. Kenneth (Ken) Dragseth and Dr. Antoinette (Toni) Johns have been meeting with board members, school staff, parents, students and community members individually and in groups to determine the challenges, strengths, goals of our district and preferred characteristics or skills in a superintendent. Additionally, staff and community members shared confidential, written feedback to the consultants at meetings or through an online survey.

Using this information, the consultants will develop a profile of the desired skills and characteristics in the next superintendent and engage in the following timeline for the search process.

- December to February: The position will be advertised and candidates will be recruited nationally.
- February 20, 2018: The Board and consultants will meet to review and select candidates to be initially interviewed.
- February 21-22, 2018: The Board will interview five or six recommended candidates and narrow to finalists.
- February 26-28, 2018: The finalists will be invited for an all day interview process including open forums available to staff, students and community members and a final formal Board interview.

The Board will ask staff, students and community to provide input into the selection by participating in an open question and answer session with each candidate and completing a feedback sheet to be shared with the Board.

To learn more about the superintendent search process and how you can be engaged in the process, visit www.isd282.org/superintendent-search
For the sixth consecutive year, St. Anthony-New Brighton School District received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting award from the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International for having met or exceeded the program’s high standards for financial reporting and accountability. St. Anthony-New Brighton School District was recognized for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

Roger Bjorklund Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

Roger Bjorklund, who served as Band Director at St. Anthony Village High School from 1961 to 1991, was recognized with the 2017 Butch Dufault Memorial award—a Youth In Music Hall of Fame award for Lifetime Achievement in Music and the Marching Arts—during the 2017 Marching Band Championships on October 14, 2017 at U.S. Bank Stadium. Roger Bjorklund was hired as a band director in 1961 when St. Anthony Village High School opened. During his 30-year career in St. Anthony-New Brighton School District, Bjorklund’s leadership created award-winning high school band and marching band programs. This prestigious award recognizes Bjorklund’s impact on music education in Minnesota and his legacy in the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District. Chris Ravndal, St. Anthony Middle School Band Director, presented the award to Roger Bjorklund and is pictured with Bjorklund’s daughter Lori Gullickson.

Community Educator of Excellence Award

Wendy Webster, Director of Community Services and Communications, received the Community Educator of Excellence Award for Region 6 at the 2017 Minnesota Community Education Conference. The purpose of the award is to honor a Community Educator from each of the nine Minnesota Community Education Association regions who represents excellence in leadership, exhibits a willingness to take risks, possesses strong communications skills, is a progressive change agent, and has high expectations for self and others. Superintendent Robert Laney is pictured with Wendy Webster.

TIES Exceptional Teacher Awards

TIES Exceptional Teacher Awards honor educators who make a positive impact on student learning through the use of technology. Congratulations to Hope Fagerland and Andy Kastenberg who were recognized at the 2017 TIES Conference on December 12, 2017.
World’s Best Workforce Committee

In 2013, the Minnesota legislature passed World’s Best Workforce legislation which requires school districts to identify clearly defined goals and benchmarks for all student groups, along with a process for evaluating students’ progress. The World’s Best Workforce Committee involves community members, parents, teachers, and students to provide input and assist with the decision making process regarding benchmarks for the following goals:

1. All students ready for Kindergarten.
2. All students in third grade achieving grade-level literacy.
3. Close the achievement gaps among all groups.
4. All students career and college ready by graduation.
5. All students graduate.

To learn more about our World’s Best Workforce goals for 2017-18, visit www.isd282.org/district-publications

School Board Members Reelected

Five candidates ran for three seats in the General Election on November 7, 2017. Barry Kinsey, Laura Oksnevad, and Leah Slye were reelected to the School Board for four-year terms beginning January 1, 2018-December 31, 2021. Dr. Cassandra Palmer, Andrea Scamehorn, and Mike Volna are serving four-year terms through December 31, 2019.

To learn more about our school board members, visit isd282.org/meet-our-school-board

Meet our School Board members (back row) Mike Volna, Director; Barry Kinsey, Chair; Leah Slye, Vice Chair; (front row) Dr. Cassandra Palmer, Treasurer; Andrea Scamehorn, Clerk, and Laura Oksnevad, Director.
Dare 2 Be Real Hosts Community Conversations on Race

St. Anthony Village High School’s Dare 2 Be Real student leadership group is hosting a series of conversations on race and invite community members, parents, and staff to participate. The purpose of the community conversations is to provide our community members, families, and teachers with the opportunity to participate in a dialogue to move forward and become a transformational institution for all students. The events provide a space where families and teachers can share our differences and similarities with the aim to understand a complex subject.

Small group conversations are led by high school students who participate in Dare 2 Be Real and have engaged in intensive training and structured discussions intended to prepare a new generation for global readiness. Dare 2 Be Real promotes, addresses, and discusses racial equity and leadership and students host and facilitate courageous conversations about race, bias, inequality and its impact on our students and community. Captains of Dare 2 Be Real are Adonai Yishak, Bissie Tadesse, Christabel Amoah, and Jasmine Kaur, pictured above. The first conversation was held on November 16, 2017. For information on future conversations, visit www.isd282.org/community-conversation.

Soccer Returns to St. Anthony Village High School

St. Anthony Village High School hosted its inaugural girls and boys soccer season. After a 25-year partnership with Spring Lake Park, the School Board of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District approved a resolution in November 2016 to dissolve the co-op program and host a girls and boys high school soccer program beginning in the 2017 season. Student interest in the inaugural season outpaced expectations. In September 2017, 122 students in grades 7-12 were participating in soccer compared to 69 students in September 2016.

St. Anthony-New Brighton School District is in the process of converting all school buildings to LEDs, as current lights burn out. The LED produces light in a fundamentally different way so it uses significantly less energy and lasts twenty times longer than traditional bulbs. The High School Key Club will be selling LED bulbs to replace a standard 60 watt bulb and proceeds will go directly to the district’s LED light replacement project. Our schools will save more than 60 percent on lighting costs once this project is completed. To order, contact Josh Dumas, High School Science Teacher and Key Club Advisor, at jdumas@stanthony.k12.mn.us.
St. Anthony Middle School has a mission of authentic learning in a caring environment and a vision that all kids will learn and contribute. In a message to parents, Principal Dr. Renee Corneille shared what makes St. Anthony Middle School (SAMS) a special place for kids. “There is something special about my SAMS family. The adults at SAMS make a choice every day to come to SAMS to live out a vision for all our kids. A vision that drives us to see each kid as our own. I get to do this with adults who dedicate their lives to the lives of the children at SAMS. Adults who, even when things are hard, do the right thing, adults who work way too hard and for way too many hours - to make sure every kid feels not only loved, but has the best opportunity to learn. . . We know collectively, we can make this world a better place, because we get to do it together. And furthermore, we do it with humor, humility, and hard work. Thank you St. Anthony Middle School Staff - thank you for giving of yourself to make this school a place for all kids to feel loved and to excel academically.”

To follow Dr. Renee Corneille and learn about the work of St. Anthony Middle School, visit RSCorneille.com

Nutrition Services Hosts Minnesota Thursdays

St. Anthony-New Brighton School District recognizes that a school environment which supports healthy eating and physical activity also promotes students’ health, well-being, and ability to learn. Nutrition Services intentionally offers a local menu for Minnesota Thursdays, which serves as many items as possible from within a 300-mile radius. A tasty local Ferndale Market turkey burger on a whole grain bun with local herb roasted zucchini & summer squash (The Good Acre), triple berry JonnyPops, fresh fruits and vegetables, and locally sourced milk! A delicious Minnesota Thursday!

Meet Mr. Rademacher, 2014 Teacher of the Year

Tom Rademacher was hired in August 2017 as a 7th grade Language Arts teacher at St. Anthony Middle School. Principal Dr. Corneille shared, “It was evident that Tom’s love for kids, humble nature, and his willingness to use humor would be an asset to St. Anthony Middle School and we are thrilled he joined our team.” As the 2014 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, Tom is often asked to share his insight on teaching and perspectives on schools in interviews and published articles. Tom has been teaching for 12 years and is the author of It Won’t Be Easy: An Exceedingly Honest Love Letter to Teaching which highlights his experiences and insights in education.
Wilshire Park Selected as National Blue Ribbon School

Wilshire Park Elementary School was one of eight Minnesota schools selected as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. Wilshire Park was nominated as an Exemplary High Performing School by the Minnesota Department of Education. Principal Kari Page explained in a staff meeting on September 29, 2017, “Schools that receive the award for exemplary performance achieve at higher rates than other schools.”

Construction Begins at Wilshire Park

St. Anthony-New Brighton School District held a special election on September 7, 2017, and voters approved a ballot question to expand Wilshire Park Elementary School. The additions include classrooms, gymnasium, expanded cafeteria, bathrooms, larger media center, and a secured entrance at Wilshire Park Elementary School to accommodate our increasing number of resident students at Wilshire Park. In the 2025-2026 school year, Wilshire Park is projected to serve between 796-963 resident students. Images of the additions that will be constructed on the east side (left) and west side (right) of Wilshire Park are pictured above.

Kindergarten Registration for the 2018-19 School Year

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2018 and live in the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District? Please e-mail cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us or call the school office at 612.706.1200 to be added to our kindergarten mailing list for the 2018-19 school year. Please contact us even if you think we already know about your child.

Jolene Hodson was nominated by Hennepin County Medical Center as America’s Favorite Crossing Guard sponsored by Safe Kids. Voting begins on January 1, 2018 at www.safekids.org/crossing-guard and a panel will select a winner in February.
Welcoming Young Families

As young families move into the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District, our population of children birth to age 5 is increasing. As a result, our Early Childhood programs have created registration timelines to ensure our resident families have priority when enrolling their children in Early Childhood Family Education classes, Family Learning, Half Day and All Day Preschool. Our goal is to ensure all students are ready for Kindergarten at Wilshire Park Elementary School.

New! In 2018, when families who live in our School District have a baby, an early childhood educator will call to congratulate you and ask how we can best support you on this parenting journey.

Did you know? Home visits with our early childhood educators are available to all families with children birth to age 5 who live in the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District. For more information or to schedule a home visit, call 612-706-1170.

Preschool Registration for 2018-2019

Families who are residents of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District can begin registering on Monday, January 8, 2018. Register online at www.isd282.org/cs Scholarships and transportation are available for qualifying families.

Preschool Options for 2018-2019

Resident families can register for half day or all day preschool on January 8, 2018.

Half Day Preschool Options:
Tuesday/Thursday mornings for 3 yr olds 9:15-11:45 a.m. • $130/month
Mon/Wed/Fri mornings for 4 yr olds 9:15-11:45 a.m. • $178/month
Monday-Friday afternoons for 4 & 5 yr olds 12:45-3:15 p.m. • $308/month **NEW**
All Day Preschool
Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Ages 3, 4, and 5 • $215 per week

Register online at www.isd282.org/cs

The preschool programs at St. Anthony Community Services were awarded a Four Star Rating by Parent Aware in 2013. To receive a Four Star Rating—the highest possible—St. Anthony Community Services demonstrated its quality early education programs and use of best practices to support school readiness.

ECFE and Preschool Open House
Saturday, January 20
9:30-11:00 a.m.
St. Anthony Community Center
Come and learn more about the Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes and preschool options available at St. Anthony Community Services. Teachers in the ECFE, half day and all day preschool classrooms will be available to welcome you and your child, answer questions, and assist with registration.

Parent Aware

The preschool programs at St. Anthony Community Services were awarded a Four Star Rating by Parent Aware in 2013. To receive a Four Star Rating—the highest possible—St. Anthony Community Services demonstrated its quality early education programs and use of best practices to support school readiness.
Adult Enrichment Classes

St. Anthony Community Services offers a variety of classes for adults in our community based on ideas generated by our residents. Whenever possible, Community Services recruits, hires, and features local instructors and are especially grateful when staff members of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District share their talents with our community.

Andrea Mason

Ceramics Classes

This introductory pottery class is for beginning and advanced potters alike. You will be introduced to throwing pottery on the wheel, hand building, and glazing procedures. Experienced students will enhance their skills and work with the instructor to develop their own projects. Dress for a mess, bring an old hand towel, and some dirty clothes! Tools will be supplied for use, including 25 lbs of clay, as well as glaze.

Thursdays: January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 15
6:30-8:30 p.m.  •  Room 109 Art Room (High School)  •  Cost $100

About the instructor: Andrea Mason has a passion for clay! She has a degree in art education from St. Cloud State University and pottery is her specialty. She taught community education pottery classes for seven years in Monticello and is currently teaching high school art at St. Anthony Village High School. Andrea loves the functionality and flexibility that the medium of clay has and can’t wait to explore it with you.

Filipino Cooking

Aimee Reyes

Filipino cooking style has evolved over the many centuries from their Austronesian origins to a mixed cuisine of Malay-Indonesian, Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Spanish, and American. One of the popular dishes of the Philippines is Lumpia (fresh or fried spring rolls). Aimee will demonstrate the technique to make this delicious Filipino favorite. You will have an opportunity to prepare and indulge in beef lumpia. This class will give you the skills to not only prepare this tasty fare but also to experience the delicious taste of Filipino flavors. Class is limited to 10 people.

Thursday, February 15
6:00-8:00 p.m.  •  Room 209 FACS (High School)  •  Cost $25

About the instructor: Aimee was born in Manila, Philippines. She started cooking by watching her grandmother and later learned the art from this beautiful lady. Aimee loves to cook and share her family’s Filipino dishes, especially for gatherings and celebrations. Aimee works at Wilshire Park Elementary School and volunteers for the Early Childhood Family Education program at St. Anthony Community Services. Aimee and her husband live in St. Anthony with their two children, who attend Wilshire Park Elementary School and St. Anthony Middle School.
Community Services - Community Engagement

Thai Cooking Class
Pheng Vang

Back by popular demand, Pheng will continue to share the food of Thailand. This session he will provide instruction on preparing Pad Thai, the stir-fried rice noodle dish commonly served as a street food and at casual local eateries in Thailand, as well as appetizer/salad Chicken Larb (chopped chicken, mint, basil, and onions dressed with lime juice and ground chilies). Chicken Larb can be wrapped in a lettuce leaf and is gluten free. Class is limited to 8 people.

Tuesday, February 6
6:00-8:30 p.m. • Room 209 FACS (High School) • Cost $25

About the Instructor: Pheng Vang, a certified chef, was born in a refugee camp in Thailand and lived there until he was about 6. His family then immigrated to Milwaukee, WI, in 1995, where he lived for 6 months before moving to Superior, WI, where they currently reside. His love and joy of cooking has been an essential skill reserved for only women in his culture. However, since his mother didn’t have an older daughter, she taught Pheng these skills. There still remains a stigma in his culture which believes that men shouldn’t be in the kitchen. Pheng has fought to remain in the kitchen and can be found there at family events (the only man), watching and learning from the experienced women in his culture. Through them, he has learned the traditional techniques, dishes, how to improvise and taste. He is excited to share the foods of the Thai culture with you. Pheng works at St. Anthony Community Services and St. Anthony Middle School.

Super Bowl Appetizers
Pheng Vang

Minnesota is hosting the 2018 SuperBowl on February 4. Be ready to serve that unique but simple appetizer for the party you are hosting or attending. After all, the food is just as important as the game or the commercials. Pheng will demonstrate some of his favorite appetizers for you and the array of appetizers you will be making include Tex Mex Egg Rolls, Thai Tacos, and Korean Deviled Eggs. Your appetizers will be the hit of the party! Not only will you will learn to prepare these tasty delights but you will also tantalize your taste buds at the same time.

Tuesday, January 23
6:00-8:30 p.m. • Room 209 FACS (High School) • Cost $25

About the Instructor: Pheng Vang, a certified chef, was born in a refugee camp in Thailand and lived there until he was about 6. His family then immigrated to Milwaukee, WI, in 1995, where he lived for 6 months before moving to Superior, WI, where they currently reside. His love and joy of cooking has been an essential skill reserved for only women in his culture. However, since his mother didn’t have an older daughter, she taught Pheng these skills. There still remains a stigma in his culture which believes that men shouldn’t be in the kitchen. Pheng has fought to remain in the kitchen and can be found there at family events (the only man), watching and learning from the experienced women in his culture. Through them, he has learned the traditional techniques, dishes, how to improvise and taste. He is excited to share the foods of the Thai culture with you. Pheng works at St. Anthony Community Services and St. Anthony Middle School.

Cooking from the Ukraine
Chris Gulachek

Halubki (pronounced ho-loob-kee) is a family favorite. They are the best stuffed-cabbage rolls ever and you will want to learn firsthand how to prepare and serve this much loved traditional Ukrainian food. The cabbage is perfectly steamed and flavors the meat, making it full of texture and seasoning. Served with potatoes, beets, and rye bread, it is sure to be the chosen comfort food on a cold winter night. Class is limited to 8 people.

Wednesday, March 7
6:00-8:30 p.m. • Room 209 FACS (High School) • Cost $25

About the Instructor: Chris Gulachek was born and raised in St. Anthony and currently resides in the Village with her husband, Bernie. Her two sons are graduates of the St. Anthony Schools. She has served this community in so many ways and now is continuing that service in sharing a family favorite. Chris serves as the Chair of the St. Anthony Community Services Advisory Council.
When is the event?
Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Where is the event?
Jax Cafe’ 1928 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis

What is the price of the tickets?  Tickets are $150 per couple, which is admission for two adults—$75 pays for a four course meal for two at beautiful Jax Cafe’ with friends, the other $75 is a donation to better the future of our schools and community! A single admission ticket is $80.

How do I purchase tickets?
Purchase tickets online at www.savforthefuture.com. Register soon; space is limited. Or contact us: SAV4Future@gmail.com

Who can attend?
Any adult over the age of 21. We encourage friends, family, community members, local businesses, staff and anyone who loves public schools to attend!

Where do I buy a raffle ticket?
Please contact us at SAV4Future@gmail.com for raffle tickets.

Will there be a silent auction?
Yes! View and bid online for all your favorite auction items or bid at the event.

How can I help?
Donations, silent auction items, and spreading the word in our community are all ways you can help this event. Please email the event organizers for more information on how you can help.

How are the proceeds from the event split between the two organizations?
Proceeds will be split between the SANBE Foundation Annual Fund and St. Anthony New Brighton Endowment Foundation.

What is the SANBE Foundation Annual Fund?
Our mission is to provide additional resources that enhance the quality of educational programs in Independent School District 282. Monies raised by SANBE are used to support our creative-learning grant program, which awards grants for teachers and staff members. These grants support innovative learning opportunities to district students. The board is made up of community volunteers and district staff. We are always looking for additional voices. Please contact us if you are interested in supporting our mission. Board responsibilities include assessment of grant applications, fundraising and community outreach. With SANBE celebrating 25 years of providing grant money to ISD 282 teachers and administrators to enhance the education of our students, we look forward to providing approximately $25,000.00 in grants this year. SANBE’s goal is to supplement and enhance the already great teaching of the District by providing financial assistance for innovative ideas that directly benefit students from preschool through high school.

What is the St. Anthony New Brighton Endowment Foundation?
The St. Anthony New Brighton School District has a rich history of providing high-quality educational opportunities for students. Public funding is no longer sufficient to ensure the level of excellence vital for student success. The St. Anthony New Brighton Endowment Foundation exists to support and enhance arts and activities programs where students develop strong minds and leadership skills for tomorrow. Every dollar you donate is invested and the income from those investments provides a permanent, long-range funding source to preserve excellence and enrichment opportunities in the St. Anthony New Brighton Schools.
Wilshire Park is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School

Wilshire Park Elementary School was one of eight Minnesota schools selected as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. Wilshire Park was nominated as an Exemplary High Performing School by the Minnesota Department of Education. Principal Kari Page explained in a staff meeting on September 29, 2017, “Schools that receive the award for exemplary performance achieve at higher rates than other schools.”

As stated in the Press Release, the National Blue Ribbon School award is based on a school’s overall academic excellence or marked progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. National Blue Ribbon Schools demonstrate that all students can achieve at high levels.

In a video message to students, Principal Kari Page explained, “The reason why you deserve this award is because you work hard every day. Way to go Wilshire Park students! You are the best and you really deserve this award.” In 2016, St. Anthony Village High School was selected as a National Blue Ribbon School.

Anna Nagle and Principal Kari Page attended a ceremony on November 6-7, 2017 in Washington D.C. which formally recognized 292 public and 50 private schools from across the U.S. who received the award.

The mission of the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District is to Educate, Prepare, and Inspire a Community of lifelong learners in our small, caring environment.