

December 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 hope this finds you all well and enjoying the extra time at home. It's been such a strange year as we continue to address the impacts from the pandemic. There have been so many changes yet we have one thing in common at this point in time - everyone is distance learning. I am so impressed by the amazing work our staff has put in place to teach and support each and every student. I also want to thank all of our parents for the extra support you're providing your children to be successful with online learning: setting up structures, schedules and getting them logged in for learning at home. Everything works so much better when we work together.



Please remember that we are required, as a public school, to take [attendance](#) every day. In order for your child to be marked "present" they need to attend daily Morning Meetings, participate in academic instruction and be engaged during small group learning sessions. If you have a conflict, please communicate with your child's teacher through Seesaw, email or a phone call. If your child needs to be absent due to illness or for other family reasons, please call our school's health office. This structure has been set up by the State of MN to support students' academic growth and we are here to help in any way possible.

Our district has set up some guidelines that will promote student success as they learn online:


- ★ Learners should be located in a **place suitable for learning** (*ie. not in bed, not in the bathroom, etc.*),
- ★ Learners should meet dress code guidelines when on a Google Meet -dress like you're going to school,
- ★ Learning space should be quiet - no music, television, or other media while students are on a Google Meet to foster a positive learning environment,
- ★ Learners should ALWAYS mute their mic until they need to speak or when they are called upon,
- ★ Learner's chromebook camera should be on (**we want to see your smiling faces**) during Google Meets unless the teacher requests or approves the camera to be off,
- ★ Students should be **actively engaged in the lesson**...toys, pets, food/snacks and other distractions should not be present when learners are in a Google Meet,
- ★ Learners should only use the Google Meet "Chat" feature for class discussions AND the "Background" feature should be OFF,
- ★ Learners should always be respectful, responsible and follow all school rules as if they were in-person when on a Google Meet and
- ★ Family members should not involve themselves in the class Google Meet. *Eg. Family should not be on camera, give answers to your child, address the teacher during class google meet - **Thank You!***

This is new learning for all of us yet we will get through this together. **Have a safe & wonderful holiday season!**

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

Month/Day	Activity
November 30th	All students begin distance learning
November 30th - December 9th	Student Council Toy and Food Drive Please drop off food and toys Monday-Friday at Door A from 8-3
December 4th	Materials pick up for grades K-2 (if you were notified by your teacher) Door O - 9:30-12:30 North end of school by the Learning commons
December 23rd-January 1st	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break 
January 21st	PTO Meeting 6:30-8:00 PM *



Vadnais Heights Elementary *Holiday*

Canned Food & Toy Drive

Sponsored by Students at VHES and the Vadnais Lions Club



Please donate a **non-perishable/canned food** item and/or a new, unwrapped **toy** to school from **November 30th- December 9th.**

Drop toy and food donations to the office, Door A, Monday through Friday 8-3

If you would rather make a monetary donation, families can do so by sending donation to:

Vadnais Heights Lions Club, 655 E County Rd F Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

All donations will help local families through the VH Food Shelf.

PTO Fundraiser - *Virtual* Pizza Party!

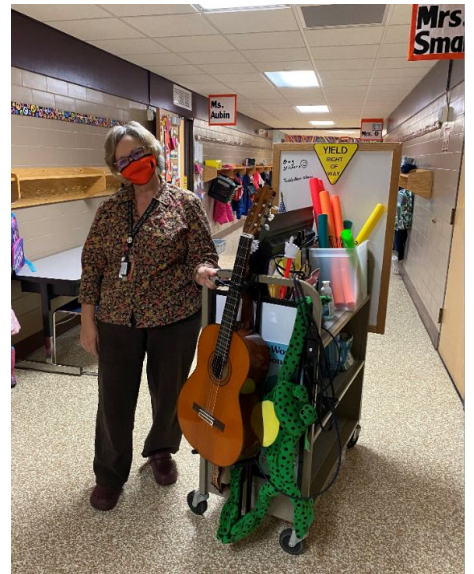
We had 13 students who were the top sellers of the fall fundraiser and they were rewarded for their efforts with a pizza party with Mrs. Svir. They played games including, "Would You Rather...", "Simon Says" and musical statues. They all received gift cards, from our PTO, to Domino's Pizza and there were plenty of giggles, wiggles and yummy pizza.

The fundraiser was a huge success earning approximately \$9000 to support initiatives in our school. A HUGE thank you to all of our families for supporting the fall fundraiser!



Thank you for being a part of our team at Vadnais!

Here at Vadnais we are applauding our amazing music teacher, Sandy Smaker! She has outdone herself in finding ways to bring music to all of our students near and far. By creating a portable music teaching pod, she has demonstrated her resourcefulness, ingenuity, joy for teaching and love of frogs. Mrs. Smaker has been with our district for 13 years and has been teaching for 33. We want to thank Sandy for her dedication to sharing her love of music with her school family. She will be retiring this December. We will miss her and beautiful singing greatly!



Also retiring in December is our head cook Deb Joyce! Miss Deb has been making sure students have a healthy lunch for 21 years! Dedicated to her job and an important member of our staff, we will miss her immensely when she retires on December 3rd. Thank you for all you have done for our school community!

It is also time to say goodbye to long time Paraeducator Dawn Boyd. Dawn has worked with individual students for the last 13 years here at Vadnais. She is also retiring in December. We will miss her calm and kind way of interacting with students and having her as a valued member of our staff. Thank you for your positive impact on students!



Thank you to the Vadnais Fire Department for providing funds to purchase items for the all school math bags!



DICE

Playing Cards

COLORED PENCILS

RULERS

Markers

GAMES



Students Learning through Engineering!



 | **ORANGE TUESDAYS**  DEC. 1-8 
"Believe in Orange & Black"

Join us for our 1st week-long, online
Silent Auction fundraiser, **ORANGE TUESDAYS**,
to benefit our Students and Teachers!

Step 1 - REGISTER HERE: <https://wblaef2020orangetuesdays.ggo.bid>
Step 2 - Click on the "GET STARTED" tab in the upper right corner.
Step 3 - Create your account with name, email and credit card to start bidding in the Silent Auction.

The mission of the White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation is to enhance the White Bear Lake Area School District's ability to provide excellence in education for all students. The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

4855 Bloom Avenue, White Bear Lake MN 55110 | 651-407-7696 | info@wblaef.org | wblaef.org

Family Resources

Below you will find resources that are available to help your family during this time of change and stress.

Mental Health & Crisis Resources

Call 911 if you or a loved one are in immediate danger or need help from the police.

NAMI Helpline: 800-950-6264
M-F, 9am - 5pm. Or in a crisis text "NAMI" to 741741 to connect with a confidential crisis counselor 24/7.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

National Youth Crisis Hotline:
1-800-4673

Ramsey Mental Health Line:
Adult line: 651-266-7900
Children line: 651-266-7878

Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative:
612-499-1121,
rccmhc@rccmhc.org

Washington County Mental Health Line: 651-275-7400

CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio):
651-379-4200, www.clues.org

Vadnais Heights Elementary

If you need resources or support please contact us.

Main Office: 651-653-2858

Principal: Sara Svir
651-653-2858
sara.svir@isd624.org

Psychologist: Staci Docken
651-653-2861
staci.docken@isd624.org

Social Worker: Vanessa Schulte
651-407-7500 x1548
vanessa.schulte@isd624.org

For more information please visit our district website:
www.isd624.org

White Bear Lake Resource Guide

Free School Meals:
Contact the Nutrition Services Department at nutritionservices@isd624.org or 651-407-7524 to enroll and/or with any questions.

Technology Support:
Email parentechhelp@isd624.org or call 651-407-7637.

Bear Care Health and Wellness Center: Free service for medical issues open Wednesday and Friday from 2-6pm. Call 651-653-2923.

Bear Care Mental Health Support: Open Wednesday and Friday 2-6 pm. Call 651-653-2980.

White Bear Lake Support Hub:
<https://www.isd624.org/departments/student-support-services/support-hub>

Additional resources:

Food Resources

Minnesota Food Helpline:
1-888-711-1151

SNAP: 651-266-4444
Toll-free: 1-844-711-1907
Online application
<https://applyMN.dhs.mn.gov>

**WIC Program (Women Infants
Children):** 651-266-1300

White Bear Lake Food Shelf:
651-407-5310
info@whitebearfoodshelf.org

1884 Whitaker St

Hugo Food Shelf: 651-528-6224
15106 Francesca Ave N

Minnesota Food Pantries:
foodpantries.org

St. Paul Salvation Army:
651-776-8169

Ramsey Meals on Wheels:
meals-on-wheels.com/ramsey
651-318-9091

Vadnais Heights Food Shelf:
651-746-4158

Housing Support

Housing Link: 612-522-2500

HOMELine Tenant Hotline:
612-728-5767
Free legal, organizing, education,
and advocacy services Tenants may
email and find an attorney at
www.homeline.org

Energy Assistance Program:
651-645-6445

YouthLink: 612-252-1200

Day One Services: 1-866-223-1111
network of domestic violence,
sexual assault community programs
in Minnesota.

Metro Shelter Hotline:
1-888-234-1329

**Ramsey County Coordinated
Access to Housing and Shelter:**
651-215-2262

Cornerstone: 24-Hour Crisis line
952-884-0330 for anyone
experiencing domestic violence,
sexual violence or human
trafficking.

Financial Resources

United Way 2-1-1: 651-291-0211
211unitedway.org
Referrals to social services and
other community resources.

**Ramsey County Emergency
Assistance:** 651-266-4884

**Community Action Partnership
Energy Assistance:** 651-645-6470

**Anoka County Emergency
Assistance:**

Merrick Community Services:
651-771-9339
<https://merrickcs.org>

Salvation Army Coats for Kids:
651-779-9177
Address: 2080 Woodlynn Ave. Free
coats and accessories will be
available for children in need who
are under the age of 18.

ATTENDANCE OFFICE Information

(651) 653-2859 attendance.vadnais@isd624.org

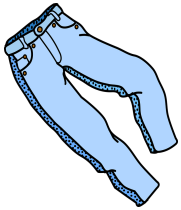
The Closet



The White Bear Lake Education Foundation supports WBL Schools in many ways.

One way is through **The Closet** - our very own thrift store set up to meet the needs of families whose children attend White Bear Lake Schools.

If families would like to visit **The Closet**, please contact your child's principal (Sara Svir at Vadnais Heights Elementary - sara.svir@isdb24.org or (651) 653-2693) and your family will schedule a time to go shopping and receive free clothes, shoes and coats for your entire family!



Schedule your appointment today -



Please remember there
is no school...

Wednesday, December
23rd through
Friday, January 1st



Happy Holidays!