



SHOW YOUR
WINGS

Name: Sabrina Sabrie **Grade:** 12

School: Eden Prairie High School

My Wings: "What I love about EPHS is how great the community is. I have had the opportunity to get to know so many people from different backgrounds which enriched my learning both inside and outside the classroom. EPHS teachers have also helped my learning by creating substantial relationships, providing resources, and continuous support throughout my education."

EXCERPT **Ep** EXPRESS

EDEN PRAIRIE NEWS IN 30 SECONDS



01 Kindergarten Registration Deadline is Jan. 29

It's time to register your incoming kindergartener for the 2021-22 school year! Make sure to save your child's seat by registering today at edenpr.org/kindergarten.



Free Meals for Students 02



EP Schools is providing free meals for all students up to age 18 (including TASSEL). Learn more at edenpr.org/child-nutrition.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JANUARY VIRTUAL KINDERGARTEN EVENTS: *All Kindergarten events begin at 6 p.m.*

Cedar Ridge Elementary: **Monday, Jan. 11**

Eagle Heights Spanish Immersion: **Thursday, Jan. 21**

Eden Lake Elementary: **Tuesday, Jan. 12**

EP Online: **Monday, Jan. 18**

Forest Hills Elementary: **Tuesday, Jan. 19**

Oak Point Elementary: **Thursday, Jan. 14**

Prairie View Elementary: **Monday, Jan. 25**

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS:

EPHS Virtual Registration Event: **Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m.**

CMS Virtual Registration Events: **Tuesday, Feb. 2 and Feb. 4, both events begin at 7 p.m.**

Mosaic Q&A: Tuesday, January 5

- 8:00-8:30 a.m.
- 1:00-1:30 p.m.
- 5:00-5:30 p.m.

Families interested in the gifted and talented program are asked to watch a video recording on the website prior to the meeting, then attend a question and answer session about the program. Find the video at edenpr.org/gifted-talented.

Public Comment Sessions for Start Times:

- **Thursday, Jan. 7 at 6 p.m.**
- **Friday, Jan. 8 at 1 p.m.**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 6 p.m.**

Online meeting links will be posted at edenpr.org/start-times.



Ep INSPIRING NEWS
EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS
Inspiring each student every day
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EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS



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A MESSAGE from the Superintendent

Thank you for supporting Eden Prairie Schools

Amidst the uncertainty in this pandemic, Eden Prairie Schools is a source of stability and reliability for our students and families. We keep safety as our top priority and provide a wide range of health-related supports so that school can continue in a way that is as normal as possible. Because of our strong safety procedures, staff and students can focus on learning. Since the start of the pandemic, our Child Nutrition Department provided free meals and that level of support continues (find details at edenpr.org/child-nutrition).

While the routines of school have looked different this year, we know that students and families depend on Eden Prairie Schools. Many of the projects we started before the pandemic, like a major expansion and renovation at Central Middle School and studying school start times, are continuing without missing a step. That's how we go about our work. Our staff will continue to support students through any changes we may experience this school year. Our strong community is possible only because of you and your support for Eden Prairie Schools.

An Unmatched Middle School Experience

With Eden Prairie Schools students in distance learning in November and December, workers have been able to work in more areas of Central Middle School. Additions and expansions are underway to welcome 6th grade students to the school in fall of 2021. In October, the fly loft of the school's new theater was erected on the school's northwest corner. The theater is modeled after the one at Eden Prairie High School and is another way CMS provides unmatched experiences for middle school students. Follow construction updates at edenpr.org/cms2021.



Associate Superintendent Earns Top Recognition

Dr. Stacie Stanley, Associate Superintendent of Eden Prairie Schools, received the 2020 Outstanding Central Office Leader Award from The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA).



Associate Principal of Student Activities Announced

Russell Reetz has been named associate principal of student activities for Eden Prairie High School. He comes to Eden Prairie from Prior Lake High School and will start in early 2021. Read more about Mr. Reetz on our website at edenpr.org.

BENEFITS OF BETTER SLEEP

If you have raised a teen or remember being one, you may recall that children's sleep patterns change as they age. While younger children tend to go to bed earlier more easily, when they become adolescents they stay up later - often resulting in them not getting enough sleep on weeknights because they have to rise early for school.

The reason for this shift is actually biological - children's "circadian rhythms," or sleep patterns, change as they enter their teen years, making it literally more difficult for them to fall asleep before a certain time.

Studies of school districts with later high school start times saw improved grades, reduced tardiness, reduced absenteeism, improved graduation rates and increased sleep. A task force of parents/guardians, staff and community members has recommended moving Eden Prairie High School to a later start - to help our teens get the sleep they need, resulting in better health, wellness and academic outcomes. See the latest updates at edenpr.org/start-times.



WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME

Beth Fletcher, Kim Ross, and C.J. Strehl to the Eden Prairie School Board.
They will begin serving a four-year term in January 2021.



Beth Fletcher



Kim Ross



C.J. Strehl

The School Board is accountable to our community and to the State of Minnesota for governing the school district. The board writes policies to set goals for the District, hires the Superintendent to achieve those goals and approves the District's budget. The board then monitors the progress the district makes toward achieving the goals and evaluates the performance of the Superintendent yearly.

We would like to thank outgoing board members, **Elaine Larabee, Holly Link and Terri Swartout** for dedicating their time and energy serving our community. A special thank you to Chair Larabee for providing leadership in that role for the last five years.