

# Mankato Area Public Schools

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

### Early Learning Department

## 2022-23



## WHERE IT ALL BEGINS....

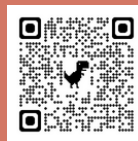
**STAY CONNECTED**



@MANKATOECFE

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MANKATOECFE](https://www.facebook.com/MANKATOECFE)

**REGISTER ONLINE**



[MANKATOECFE.ORG](https://MANKATOECFE.ORG)



Explore the Mankato Area Public Schools  
Fall Newsletter on Pages 13-20.

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“Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) is committed to working together equitably, with families and communities, so that each learner has the knowledge and skills to be successful and contributing citizens in a diverse global society.”



### Are you on the District Census? Are you new to the area?

If you have children between the ages of birth and Kindergarten, please be sure each child is on the Mankato Area Public School's Census. The district uses census information for future planning and to send school information. Please contact the Central Registration office at 507-387-2125 or by email at [centralregistration@isd77.org](mailto:centralregistration@isd77.org)



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Fall Session

Fall Registration opens Aug 15th  
 Fall Session Runs Sept 12th – Nov 21st  
 Ready! for Kindergarten Oct 11th & Oct 13th  
 No Class Oct 10th, 20th, 21st, Nov 7th  
 NO Evening classes – Election day Nov 8th

### Winter Session

Winter Registration opens Nov. 7th  
 Winter Session Runs Dec 5th – Feb 27th  
 No Class Dec 20th – Jan 2nd, Jan 16th, 23rd  
 Ready! for Kindergarten Feb 7th & 9th

### Spring Session

Spring Registration opens Feb 13th  
 Spring Session Runs March 10th– May 19th  
 No class March 27th, 28th, April 7th, 21st  
 Ready! for Kindergarten April 18th & 20th



# WELCOME!

## EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

Early Childhood Family Education provides programming and service to families of young children. Parents and caregivers are critical to a young child's development and provide a foundation for young learners' success. Early Childhood Family Education is designed to strengthen and support families through facilitation of parent-child activities by a licensed early childhood teacher, and parent discussion facilitated by a licensed parent educator. A variety of classes and outreach activities are offered for families with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with varied topics and interests.

### What does a typical ECFE class include? ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

#### **Parent-Child Activity Time**

Families explore a classroom filled with developmentally appropriate play and learning activities planned by a licensed early childhood teacher. These experiences foster a child's social, emotional, cognitive, physical and language skills.

#### **Parent Discussion Time**

Parents meet with a licensed parent educator to share support, experiences and information about relevant and parenting topics. Research on early brain development, parent-child relationships and child development are among the topics discussed to encourage the healthy development of families.

#### **Children's Activity Time**

Children explore, gain independence, and practice social skills while interacting with the early childhood teacher and paraprofessional.

For more information visit our website at [www.mankatoecfe.org](http://www.mankatoecfe.org) to find the following information:  
Class Offerings & Program Information | Preschool Information | Registration Information

## COMING SOON...

## Mankato Area Public Schools Center for Learning!



*Building our future with the youngest learners!*

# INFANT/TODDLER CLASSES

## GREAT START 0-9 MONTHS

### Non-Separating

Bring your baby to play in our ECCE classroom! You will find age appropriate activities to enjoy with your baby, simple ways to encourage your baby's development at home, and meet other parents with whom you can share ideas, concerns, and successes. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## BUSY BODIES 10-18 MONTHS

### Non-Separating

Rolling...Creeping...Crawling... Walking!

Explore, play and learn with your little one. Experience support, education & encouragement from other caregivers during a parent discussion session facilitated by a licensed parent educator. Topics range from child development to finding time for yourself. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## BABY SIGN 3-18 MONTHS

### Non-Separating

As parents, we wonder what is going on inside their little heads as we wait in anticipation for their first words. By teaching your child gestures or signs as well as spoken words, they are more quickly able to understand and communicate with the world around them. Come and learn what sign language is all about. WINTER SESSION

## WELCOME TO THE WORLD LITTLE ONE!

Congratulations on your new baby and welcome to Mankato Area Public Schools. Parents and caregivers are invited to join us in one of our infant classes to gain support, learn, and grow along with other new parents. This complimentary gift certificate is for your first Early Childhood Family Education infant parent/child class. Call the Early Learning office at 507-625-4620 to register.

## LITTLE WIGGLERS

### 13-24 MONTHS

#### Non-Separating

Your one year-old is busy, curious and ready to play! Together you and your child will play with a variety of toys, use art materials, learn songs and finger plays and enjoy lots of movement. A benefit of this class is that you and your child will remain in the same room together while parent discussion takes place. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## MUSIC, MOVEMENT & BOOKS

### 13-28 MONTHS

#### Non-Separating

Come and enjoy music, movement and books with your toddler! This class provides a time for caregivers to participate in music, movement, and book activities with their child. During this class, we will use songs, books, and large motor skills to help foster literacy development, active learning, and physical health. Gym and outdoor experiences will be provided when possible.

## LITTLE EXPLORERS

### 18-28 MONTHS

#### Gradual Separating

Toddlers are constantly on the go exploring with energy and wonder. That is their job. Join us in activities that encourage language development, self-help skills, and a variety of sensory activities. Gradually, as the class allows, parents will move on to the parenting education room. As a parent, you will gain knowledge and support from a licensed parent educator and other parents during discussion time. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## SHAKERS AND MOVERS

### 18-33 MONTHS

#### Separating

Toddlers are always on the move! Enjoy some one on one time with your child while they learn a variety of skills through play. Gym time will be available for some classes. As a caregiver, you will gain knowledge and support from a parent educator and other caregivers when we separate for discussion time.



To view the current class schedule go to [mankatoecfe.org](http://mankatoecfe.org) or scan QR code.

# AGES 2 & 3/MULTI-AGE CLASSES

## 2-3 YEAR OLDS

### Separating

Being a two or three year old is a very unique time in your child's life. Language development is emerging, social skills are developing and physical and cognitive changes occur rapidly. The class will have parent/child interaction time followed by a parent only discussion time lead by a Parent Educator. Children remain in the classroom to experience learning activities, such as sensory exploration, dramatic play, large and small muscle experiences, in addition to storytelling, music and other literacy-rich activities under the guidance of an Early Childhood Teacher. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.



## FAMILY NATURE MEET-UP CLASS BIRTH - 8 YEARS

### Non-Separating - 8 weeks

Nature will be our guide as we explore, learn, and grow outside together at local parks. The Nature Meet-up is for all families whether you are an avid explorer with your little ones or just want to try something new. We welcome backpack babies and children birth - 8yrs. You, the parents, or caregiver, will stay with your children during the nature meetup. You get to explore and play too. Please come dressed to be outside. We'll be playing and hiking in all types of weather. Rain boots and raincoats make exploring more fun on wet days. Fall and Spring sessions

## BOOKS AND BEYOND

### 2-5 YEARS

#### Non-Separating

Dive into the world of imagination with your child through books. In this non-separating class you and your child will experience art, math, science, music, and nutritional activities that will correspond with the books you'll be reading. Parenting tips will be shared. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## MESSY ART 2-5 YEARS

#### Non-Separating

"Paint, chalk, flour, oatmeal, glue, glitter, hands and feet..." What do all these items have in common? These are just a few tools we will use to "mess around" in our class. So, come prepared to explore, create, and have fun! Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## STEM CLASS 3-5 YEARS

#### Non-Separating

Help your child explore the world using their senses. Join us as we explore, investigate, calculate, & experiment with hands-on math and science concepts. Learn with your child how fun, easy, and important it is to incorporate math and science into your everyday life. This is a non-separating class taught by an Early Childhood Teacher. Outdoor experiences will be provided weather permitting.

## PARENTING FOR EQUITY

### Virtual

There is no perfect way to talk with young children about race, racism, equity, anti-racism, and justice. Let's do this together! With the guidance of a licensed parent educator, parents will explore how racial identity develops, share how to use children's books to aid in conversations, and examine what role parent's play in raising race-conscious children. This class is offered online. There will be asynchronous and synchronous portions of this class. Directions on how to participate will be emailed to you one week before class begins.

## ONLINE PARENTING DISCUSSION GROUP

### Online

Come join us for a 10-week journey exploring what is vital to a strong foundation of parenting! Topics will focus on attachment, brain development, social emotional learning, and parenting philosophy and goals. This online discussion will be lead by a licensed parent educator by sharing videos, information, and posting discussion questions. Parents can participate and respond to the discussion questions throughout the week as it fits their schedules. A biweekly chat will also be held for those who are able to participate every other Wednesday evening, but not required. Participants will receive more details on how to participate a week before the session will begin.



To view the current class schedule go to [mankatoecfe.org](http://mankatoecfe.org) or scan QR code.

# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

## FALL SESSION

**Sept 12 – Nov 21**

Fall Registration opens Aug 15

## WINTER SESSION

**Dec 5 – Feb 27**

Winter Registration opens Nov 7

## SPRING SESSION

**Mar 10– May 19**

Spring Registration opens Feb 13



To register, go to [mankato.ce.eleyo.com](http://mankato.ce.eleyo.com) or scan QR code.  
If you are unable to register online, you may call our office  
at the Family Learning Center (507) 625-4620.

## PAYMENT/SCHOLARSHIPS

Fees are payable by cash, check or credit card. Scholarships for parent/child classes in the form of a reduced fee or waived fee are available for families in need of financial assistance (ECFE Fee Scale). Registrant wishing to withdraw their registration must do so no later than one week prior to the course start date. No refunds will be given if withdraw is made less than one week prior.

## IMMUNIZATIONS

Please bring a copy of your child's immunization records to the first class. If your child has not been immunized, we will need you to submit a signed exempt form to the Early Learning office.

## SIBLING CARE

Sibling care is available for most parent/child classes. You will register and pay for sibling care at the same time you register for your parent/child class. We ask that you provide one healthy snack item per term. You are welcome to visit your child in sibling care at any time.

## ECFE FEE SCALE

Income Range	Fee for 1.5 hr class	Fee for 1 hr class
\$0-19,999	\$0	\$0
\$20,000-29,999	\$15	\$10
\$30,000-49,999	\$40	\$20
\$50,000-74,999	\$65	\$40
\$75,000+	\$80	\$60

# READY! FOR KINDERGARTEN/ ABE

## READY! for Kindergarten

READY! For Kindergarten is a program of Mankato Area Public Schools' Early Childhood Family Education Department

### What is Ready! For Kindergarten?

Ready! For Kindergarten provides take home learning toys and materials to inspire and empower parents and caregivers to help babies and young children develop strong brain connections that determine how they will think, learn, and grow. Parents and caregivers are invited to attend a series of workshops each year, based on their child's age. They learn new skills and helpful tips to nurture development in ways that foster academic skills and personal behaviors to boost children's motivation, perseverance and engagement in learning. Ready! facilitates interactions and active learning by using movement, play, exploration, communication and all of the child's senses- seeing, hearing, smelling, touching, and tasting.

**How often do classes meet?** READY! for Kindergarten is a series of three parent classes per year (fall, winter and spring) for parents of children ages birth to five. Register for each age group separately.

**Who can attend?** Caregivers providers of children ages birth to five.

## 2022-2023 READY!

### For Kindergarten

will be

at the Family Learning Center

6:30 pm – 8 pm.

### Program Age groups & dates:

Birth- 1, 1-2 yr, 2-3 yr

Oct. 11, Feb. 7, and Apr. 18

3-4 yr, 4-5 yr

Oct. 13, Feb. 9, and Apr. 20

Orientation class for first time parents at 6pm.

Carefully choose the class section based on the year your child will enter Kindergarten

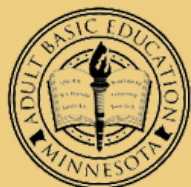
Birth- 1: if your child enters Kindergarten in 2027

Age 1-2: if your child enters Kindergarten in 2026

Age 2-3: if your child enters Kindergarten in 2025

Age 3-4: if your child enters Kindergarten in 2024

Age 4-5: if your child enters Kindergarten in 2023



### MANKATO AREA ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

Lincoln Community Center  
110 Fulton Street  
Mankato, MN 56001  
(507) 345-5222

New Ulm Public Library  
17 North Broadway Street  
New Ulm, MN 56058  
(507) 779-5827

To be eligible for ABE services, an individual must be at least 17 years of age or older, not currently enrolled in secondary school, and functioning below the 12th grade level in any of the basic academic areas including reading, math or speaking English. Prior to enrollment in any ABE program, an assessment test is required to determine academic eligibility.



# EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Best to be screened at age 3  
Required before  
Kindergarten Registration



**CALL CENTRAL  
REGISTRATION  
507-387-2125  
TO MAKE AN  
APPOINTMENT  
FOR A FREE  
EARLY  
CHILDHOOD  
SCREENING**

Early Childhood Screening is a comprehensive developmental screening for children 3–5 years old.

The purpose of Early Childhood Screening is to...

- \* Increase parent understanding of child's health, development and school readiness

- \* Identify conditions and risk factors that may affect a child's ability to learn and develop, make referrals for further assessment

- \* Link families to parenting resources and preventive health care

A Parent Should Schedule an Early Childhood Screening because....

- \*It identifies, at an early age, any hearing, vision, growth or development needs.

- \*It gives the parent valuable information about their child, information about school readiness and community resources.

- \*It is required by the state of Minnesota before entrance into public school kindergarten.

## **EARLIER IS BETTER!**

The screening changes with the age of your child, so there is no reason to wait.

Is your child 3 or older?

Call 507-387-2125 to schedule a screening appointment.



# HELP ME GROW/ HOME VISITING

## Help Me Grow

### WHAT IS HELP ME GROW?

- Help Me Grow provides resources for families to understand developmental milestones and learn if there are concerns. This helps families take the lead in seeking additional support, or referring their child for a comprehensive, confidential screening or evaluation at no cost.
- Help Me Grow is an inter-agency initiative of the State of Minnesota Department of Education, Department of Health and Department of Human Services. We partner with all local service agencies.

### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HELP A YOUNG CHILD DEVELOP, LEARN AND GROW?

- Developmental Milestones –Learn more about how a child develops from birth to five.
- Encouraging Healthy Development– Find ideas on how to support a child's development, healthy learning and growth.
- Get Help for a Child– Learn what to do if you have concerns about a child's development.
- Articles– Explore in-depth information on birth to five child development and growth and early intervention.

<http://helpmegrowmn.org>

## HOME VISITING

Our Early Childhood Family Education Home Visit program is designed to provide individual support to expectant parents and parents of children ages 0–5. Home visits are conducted by a licensed parent educator to help support parents in their role as the first and most important teacher of their child. Parents will gain an understanding of child development and age appropriate behaviors, and receive support with other parenting joys and challenges. For questions and to schedule an appointment with a home visitor, call the Early Learning Department at (507) 625-4620.

### WHO MAY BENEFIT FROM ECFE HOME VISITS

- Families without access to reliable transportation
- Families with children and/or parents having special medical, physical, or developmental concerns
- Families referred by other programs
- Expecting mothers
- First-time parents
- Families who would benefit from individual support
- Families experiencing trauma or stressful family situations

### WHAT TO EXPECT FROM OUR HOME VISIT PROGRAM

- Make connections with other community resources
- Encouragement, support, and strategies to aid your parental development.
  - Discuss current parenting and family issues based on individual family needs
- Learn developmentally appropriate activities to support your child's development.
- A safe, confidential, environment to share and discuss personal issues related to parenting
- Gain support in the journey of becoming a child's first and most important teacher

# PARENT INFORMATION

Registration for Early Learning  
or Program Questions:  
507-625-4620  
[www.mankatoecfe.org](http://www.mankatoecfe.org)

Other Location Addresses are:  
Early Learning  
15 Map Dr, Mankato  
Eagle Lake Elementary  
500 LeSueur Ave, Eagle Lake  
Rosa Parks Elementary  
1001 Heron Dr, Mankato  
Kennedy Elementary  
2600 E Main Street, Mankato  
Franklin Elementary  
1000 North Broad Street, Mankato

## FAMILY OPEN GYM & PLAYTIME

Parents and their children Birth– Age 5 are  
WELCOME! Family Open Gym and Playtime is  
great for large muscle development. Riding toys,  
balls, and more will be available.

**Join us for Open Gym**

**9:30am to 11:30am**

**Sept 16th, 23rd**

**Oct 14th, 28th**

**Nov 11th, Dec 9th, 16th**

**Jan 13th, 27th**

**Feb 10th, 24th**

**March 10th, 24th**

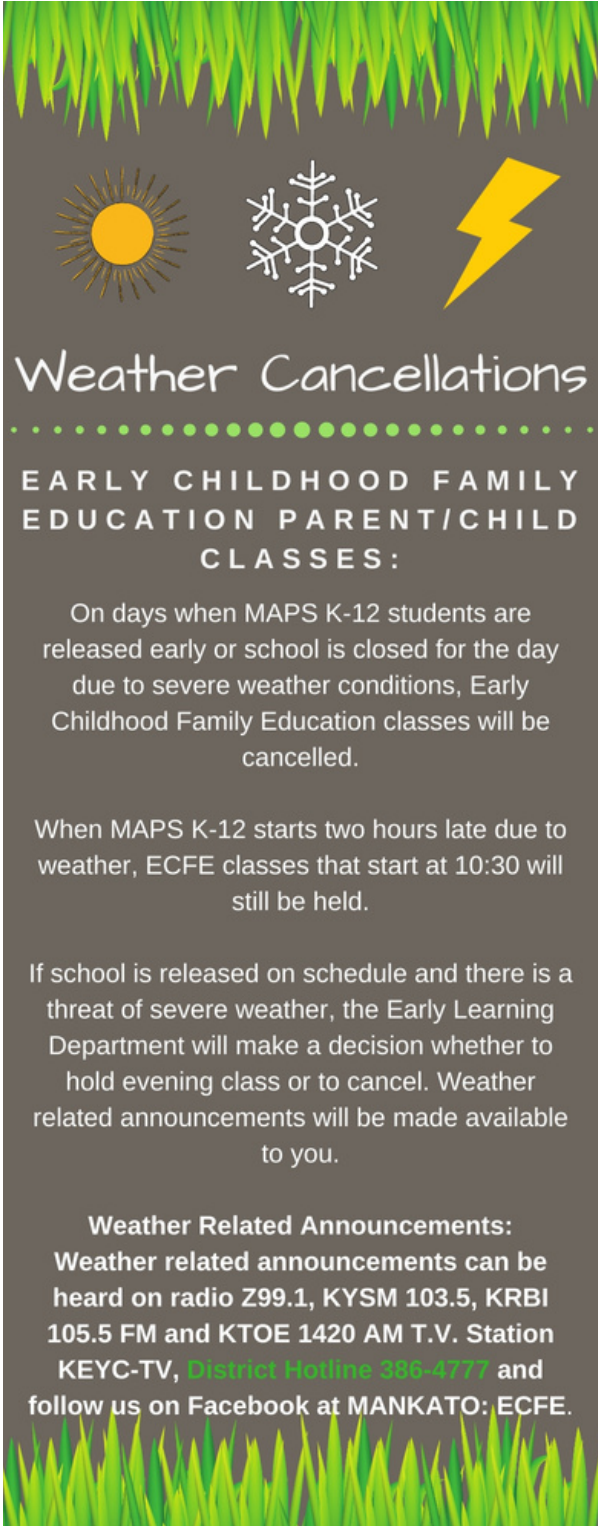
**April 14th, 28th**

**May 12th**

**Free! No need to register.**

**Located at the Family Learning Center Gym,  
820 Hubbell Ave, Mankato.**

**Parking is available in the back lot, use door  
#7 to access the gym. Ages Birth to 5.**



## Weather Cancellations

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### EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION PARENT/CHILD CLASSES:

On days when MAPS K-12 students are released early or school is closed for the day due to severe weather conditions, Early Childhood Family Education classes will be cancelled.

When MAPS K-12 starts two hours late due to weather, ECFE classes that start at 10:30 will still be held.

If school is released on schedule and there is a threat of severe weather, the Early Learning Department will make a decision whether to hold evening class or to cancel. Weather related announcements will be made available to you.

**Weather Related Announcements:**  
Weather related announcements can be heard on radio Z99.1, KYSM 103.5, KRBI 105.5 FM and KTOE 1420 AM T.V. Station KEYC-TV, **District Hotline 386-4777** and follow us on Facebook at MANKATO: ECFE.

# MAPS PRESCHOOL



**LEARN AND PRACTICE  
SOCIAL SKILLS**



**PLAYING TO LEARN  
AND  
LEARNING TO PLAY**



**ART AND SENSORY  
PLAY**



## MAPS PRESCHOOL

<https://www.mankatocer.com/programs/early-learning/maps-preschool>

### WHY PRESCHOOL IS IMPORTANT?

- MAPS Preschool is a registration based program. Scholarships are available on a sliding fee scale.
- Family Involvement is essential to the MAPS Preschool experience.
- A research, play based, curriculum and authentic assessment are used across program classrooms.
- Play builds the brain! Play is a child's work! Play based learning is foundational at MAPS!
- The whole child is developed by offering activities and experiences through music, movement, outdoor, and hands-on learning to develop skills in the areas of math, literacy, cognitive, and social emotional.
- Alignment with Mankato Area Public Schools policies, practices and procedures for successful transition to Kindergarten and life long learning!
- Our classrooms offer inclusive settings for children with special needs.



**MOVING OUR BODIES TO LEARN AND GROW**



**SCAN TO REGISTER**

### REGISTRATION IS EASY

Register online at [mankato.ce.eleyo.com](https://mankato.ce.eleyo.com);  
or go to Early Learning Office at The Family Learning Center;  
820 Hubbell Avenue. For more information call 507-625-4620



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

## SKATING SCHOOL

Sara Otto & Staff

6 Sessions–Ages 3 and up

Skating classes are offered through the Ice Skating Institute of America for all recreational skaters at all levels. Students progress at their own pace.

### ALL SEASONS ARENA

**FALL SESSION 1: \$60**

Sat, Sept 10– Oct 15

**FALL SESSION 2: \$60**

Sat, Oct 29, Nov 12, 19 & Dec 3, 10, 17

### BEGINNER 1 COURSE #: 2300

9:30–10am, 10–10:30am, 10:30–11am, 11–11:30am

### BEGINNER 2 COURSE #: 2400

9:30–10 am, 10–10:30am, 10:30–11am, 11–11:30am

### PRE-ALPHA COURSE #: 2500

10–10:30am, 11–11:30am

### ALPHA COURSE #: 2600

10–10:30am, 11–11:30am

### BETA COURSE #: 2700

10:30–11am

### GAMMA/DELTA COURSE #: 2800

9:30–10am

## PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS

Individual and Small Group lessons available 30-minute sessions

Individual \$24/Lesson

Ages 3 and up

Small-Group \$20/Lesson per participant

Ages 6 and up

Call 507-387-5501 to schedule.



## REGISTER WITH US!



[www.mankatocer.com](http://www.mankatocer.com)



[commed@isd77.org](mailto:commed@isd77.org)



507-387-5501

## DASH SPORTS

### TYKES PROGRAM



#### Ages 2–6

- Developing Athletes Sports Hub
- Offering communities & families well organized, structured, and fun skill based sports programs for kids
- Our Pillars: 'Respect, Hustle, Pride'
- A local, MN company led by people with a passion for youth sports development

Basketball

Soccer

Flag Football



SCAN HERE

# COMING SUMMER 2023

## ALL DAY PRESCHOOL OPTIONS

### #STAYTUNED

[aces@isd77.org](mailto:aces@isd77.org) | 507.387.5501  
15 Map Dr, Mankato

## Volunteer!

*Start where you are. Use what you have.  
Do what you can.*

### Volunteer Opportunities Include:

- weekly classroom volunteers
- reading and math tutors
- classroom parents or grandparents
- classroom speakers
- school-based mentors
- EL volunteers
- financial literacy volunteers
- AVID tutors

### Adult Basic Education Volunteer

#### Opportunities Include:

- EL Volunteer
- GED Volunteer

If you are interested or have questions contact the Family and Community Engagement Office at [volunteer@isd77.org](mailto:volunteer@isd77.org) or visit: [isd77.org](http://isd77.org) and click on volunteer opportunities or call 507-387-5501.

All volunteers go through an intake procedure to make sure it is a good match.

Contact us today!



# Mankato Area Public Schools

## Newsletter Fall 2022

### LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear MAPS Students and Families,

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 2022–2023 school year for Mankato Area Public Schools! Over the past few years the students, staff and families in our school district have shown great perseverance through very challenging times. This year, we are more committed than ever to get back to the regular routines of public education that make MAPS a special place to learn and grow as a person.

Whether you are new to the school system or a long-time member of our school community, we are excited to begin school with you this fall. MAPS teachers are the best in the state, and the support staff in all our schools and departments are dedicated to student success. We'd love to hear from you about how to improve the school experience for you or your student. We are here to help.

Let's get it started. Have a great year!

Sincerely,

Paul Peterson  
Superintendent



ASSOCIATION OF  
SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS  
INTERNATIONAL

The Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting  
is presented to

**Mankato Area Public Schools ISD 77**

for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report  
for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021.

The district report meets the criteria established for  
ASBO International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting.



William A. Sutter  
President

David J. Lewis  
Executive Director

2022–2023 Student  
Calendar – Please visit our  
website to view 5 other  
translations and  
accessible format

([isd77.org/discover-maps/district/calendars](https://isd77.org/discover-maps/district/calendars))



Meet the School Board  
– Please visit our  
website to see our  
current Board Members  
([isd77.org/discover-maps/about-maps/schoolboard/meet-the-board](https://isd77.org/discover-maps/about-maps/schoolboard/meet-the-board))

### New School Meals Policy

Please review our new  
School Meals Policy (547).  
This policy outlines how  
MAPS manages low,  
negative or unpaid meal  
accounts.

([isd77.org/discover-maps/district/district-policies](https://isd77.org/discover-maps/district/district-policies))



## NEW LEADERS IN MAPS

Mankato Area Public Schools is excited to welcome several new leaders to the MAPS community. These leaders will continue our commitment to excellence by helping drive our mission and core purpose by working together equitably, with families and communities, so that each learner has the knowledge and skills to be a successful and contributing citizen in a diverse global society.



**Jody Rittmiller,**  
**Principal of Bridges**  
**Community**  
**School**

Jody started her career in teaching in Park Rapids but then came to work in Mankato Area Public Schools for 24 years where she had a number of roles including mentor coach, teacher on special assignment, library media specialist, and elementary teacher. During the 2020–21 school year, Jody also helped organize and led MAPS's online elementary distance learning (MAPS Online Academy). Most recently, during the 2021–22 school year she was an assistant elementary principal leading Hilltop Elementary in LeSueur–Henderson Public Schools.

Jody holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota in Early Childhood education. She obtained both a graduate degree in Library Media Education and her specialist degree in educational leadership from Minnesota State University, Mankato.



**Akram Osman,**  
**Principal of Dakota**  
**Meadows Middle**  
**School**

Akram started his career in education as a cultural liaison in Mankato Area Public Schools, and his first teaching assignment was as a special education teacher at Rosa Parks Elementary. Previously, he has served as Principal at Bloomington Kennedy High School, an Associate Principal at Eden Prairie High School, and as a Dean of Students and Associate Principal at Metcalf Middle School in Burnsville Public Schools.

Osman holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Minnesota State University, Mankato, in exercise science and special education respectively. He obtained his principal's license from MSU–Mankato, and earned a certificate for culturally proficient educational practices from the Center of Culturally Proficient Practice.



**Melissa Brueske,**  
**Principal of**  
**Jefferson**  
**Elementary School**

Melissa started teaching in the Belle Plaine Public School District and was there for 15 years before coming to Mankato Area Public Schools. She has been with the district for four years and served as the interim principal at Jefferson, the dean of students at Prairie Winds Middle School, and taught kindergarten for one year at Washington Elementary.

Melissa holds an undergraduate degree from Bethany Lutheran College and the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse in Elementary Education. She also has a graduate degree from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. She obtained her Administrator's license and her specialist degree in school administration from Concordia University – Saint Paul.



## LEADER CHANGES IN MAPS

Michelle Kruize, Principal at Roosevelt Elementary School, 507-345-4285, mkruiz1@isd77.org

- Transferred from Bridges Community School

Ann Haggerty, Principal at Washington Elementary School, 507-345-3059, ahagge1@isd77.org

- Transferred from Roosevelt Elementary School

Aaron Hyer, Assistant Principal at Dakota Meadows Middle School, 507-387-5077, ahyer1@isd77.org

- Transferred from Prairie Winds Middle School

Kai Sill, Assistant Principal at Prairie Winds Middle School, 507-345-6625, ksill1@isd77.org

- Transferred from Dakota Meadows Middle School

**For more information about leadership positions and staffing, contact Mankato Area Public Schools at [maps@isd77.org](mailto:maps@isd77.org) or 507-387-1868**



## GIFTS AND GRANTS -- FEBRUARY 16, 2021 TO JUNE 20, 2022

A R Fitness LLC – \$100, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Affordable Towing of Mankato Inc – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Aldi Inc – one gift card (\$500 value) & two gift cards (\$200 value), high school  
 AMCOR – \$1,000, high school  
 Andring Collins Norman & Co CHTD – \$100, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Anonymous – games, resource books, baskets (\$500 value), elementary school  
 \$1,200, elementary school  
 \$110, middle school choir room piano tuning  
 \$1,375, high school boys' soccer  
 \$1,000, Futures  
 pony walker (\$2,200 value) & stander (\$2,600 value), special education  
 \$50, high school VEX robotics  
 Aurora Chiropractic LLC – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 Austin, Lynn & Darla – \$500, high school band uniforms  
 B & B Tree Moving & Landscaping LLC – \$100, high school wrestling  
 Bank Vista – winter clothing (\$600 value), elementary school  
 Bartholomew, Pamela S – \$100, high school  
 Baumgartner, Trevor & Rochelle – \$250, high school dance program  
 Bird, Elizabeth A – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 Blinds & More – \$500, high school dance program  
 \$250, high school girls' hockey  
 Blue Earth County Farm Bureau – \$5,000, greenhouse project  
 \$600, community education & recreation Movies in the Park  
 Blue Bricks – \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 Bolton & Menk – \$3,000, Career Expo  
 Bromeland Law LLC – \$500, Community Education & Recreation Movies in the Park  
 \$500, Movies under the Stars  
 Brown & Brown of Minnesota Inc – \$2,200, districtwide  
 Budge, Anita & Aaron – \$150, high school VEX robotics  
 Burg, James & Cindy – \$100, high school wrestling  
 Burns, Heidi & Matthew – \$100, high school band uniforms  
 Busch, Sheila R. – \$150, high school boys' cross country  
 BVSTOOLS, Inc. – \$2,000, high school VEX robotics  
 CAB Construction – Metal squares (\$115 value), high school welding program  
 Calsbeek, Theresa & Leslie – \$100, high school band uniforms

Capstone Publishing – 850 books (\$6,800 value), early childhood screening  
 Cars-N-Credit – backpack & supplies (\$450 value), districtwide  
 Casey's General Stores – \$250, community education Movie under the Stars  
 Centerpoint Energy Foundation – \$500, community education & recreation  
 Movies in the Park  
 Charities Aid Foundation America – \$100, elementary school  
 \$68, high school  
 Chesley, Robert & Carla – \$1,000, high school students in need funds  
 Christensen, Mary Ann Martin – \$293,928, Future Farmers of America, Career Pathways program, Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource education  
 Cinch Connectivity Solutions – \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 City of Mankato – \$8,000, Online Study Center  
 City of North Mankato – \$3,500, 77  
 Lancers, high school middle school, elementary school, student activities  
 communityBank – \$500, districtwide  
 \$500, community education & recreation Movies in the Park  
 \$500, community education Movie Under the Stars  
 \$1,000, high school VEX robotics  
 Compeer Financial – \$2,000, Future Farmers of America  
 Conley, Mary & Coyle, B Richard – \$75, high school girls' hockey  
 \$500, high school band uniforms  
 Consolidated Communications CC  
 Services Company – \$500, high school dance program  
 \$2,500, middle school Project Lead the Way program  
 \$250, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Cork & Key – \$500 to community education Movie under the Stars  
 Corteva Agriscience E.I. Dupont De Nemours & Company – \$1,000, Future Farmers of America  
 Cougar boys' hockey – \$300, high school girls' hockey  
 Cronn-Mills, Daniel & Kristin – \$25, middle school group  
 Crossview Covenant Church – \$2,000, adult basic education  
 Crown Cork & Seal – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Crystal Valley – \$1,500, Career Expo  
 Czmowski, Anthony & Joan – \$100, high school VEX robotics  
 Dairy Queen West – \$224, high school dance program

Dasch Salon & Spa – \$250, community education & recreation Movies in the Park  
 Dauk Household – \$1,200, Future Farmers of America  
 Davis, Ryan & Teresa – \$65, elementary school  
 DeLeu, Carly & Bradley – \$2,000, middle school robotics  
 Dotson, Carole & Denny – \$2,500, high school band uniforms  
 Duea, Steve & Kathy – \$250, high school dance program  
 Dunkin Donuts – 32 dozen donuts (\$320 value), elementary school  
 DWC Holdings DBA The Goalie Club – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Eagle Lake Family Dentistry – \$500, community education & recreation  
 Movies in the Park  
 \$250, community education Movies under the Stars  
 \$500, high school band uniforms  
 Ehmke, Sabrina Dean – \$100, high school wrestling  
 E.I. Microcircuits Inc – \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 Ewert, Dan & Karla in Memory of Vanessa Ewert – two large sit to stand standers, adapted bike, shower/commode adapted chair, tumble form deluxe 2 swing frame, versa form by tumble form (15,250 value), special education  
 Fallenstein, Jenice – \$150, high school dance program  
 Federated Insurance – \$1,200, community education – track  
 Findley, Dennis & Joyce – \$1,000, high school band uniforms  
 Flexible Plastics, Inc. – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Frandsen Bank & Trust – \$2,500, greenhouse project grant  
 Frentz, Nick – \$100, high school dance program  
 Frohling, Kristine – 1995 Toyota Camry (\$250 value), high school trades & industry program  
 Fulfillment Express Inc – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 FUN.com – \$100, high school wrestling  
 gift cards (\$50 value), community education & recreation movie event  
 Gardner, John & Terry – \$50, middle school group  
 Gene Haas Foundation – \$8,000, high school trades & industry program  
 scholarships  
 Gish Electric LLC – \$250, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Glen A. Taylor Foundation – \$10,000, Early Learning Center – Ready for Kindergarten  
 Gohr, Kim – \$100, high school girls' hockey

Greater Mankato Area United Way – backpack & supplies (\$2,000 value), districtwide  
 \$50,000, Youth Mental Health Navigator  
 850 books (\$6,800 value), early childhood screening  
 Griffin Support Services Inc – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 Gustavus Adolphus College – \$3,500, Edward H Schultz Scholarship  
 Haggerty, Kevin & Ann – \$576, high school VEX robotics  
 Hedlund, Malia Grems – \$125, high school band uniforms  
 Hendricks, Bradley A Trust Agreement – \$1,000, elementary school  
 Hilfer, Paul B. – \$2,000, high school VEX robotics  
 Hiler, Carol – \$1,000, elementary school  
 Hoffner, Todd & Melodee – \$1,000, middle school Yellow Ribbon program;  
 \$1,000 to high school swim & dive in memory of Mara Anne Hoffner  
 Hood, Dennis – \$250, high school wrestling  
 Horace Mann – staff breakfast (\$200 value), high school  
 Huettl, Dennis – Push Mower (\$150 value), high school trade & industry program  
 Hy-Vee – gift cards (\$125 value), community education & recreation  
 Movies in the Park & Rec on the Go  
 I & S Group Inc – \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 \$500, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Inspire Foundation – \$10,000, Community Education Connecting Kids Grant  
 Jakes, Paul & Lori – \$100, high school wrestling  
 Janavaras, Linda & Basil – \$4,000, John Basil Janavaras Memorial Scholarship  
 J Beal Real Estate – Kevin Guillemette – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 JBKD LLC – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Jessen, Sandra B – \$40, Nick Hoffman Scholarship  
 Jewison & Associates Inc – \$50, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Jo's Fitness Garage – \$300, high school dance program  
 Johnson Outdoors – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Jones Metal – 2,700 lbs of steel (\$445 value), high school welding program  
 2100# steel/150# stainless steel (\$452.50 value), high school trade & industry program  
 \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 KA'SHA' – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Kalakian, Leonard & Virginia – \$100, high school dance program  
 Kappes, Renae & Kelly – \$100, high school girls' cross country

Kato LLC – \$417, Future Farmers of America  
 Kato Engineering – \$500, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Kato Family Chiropractic PA – Paula E Prybylla DC – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Kato Glass – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 Kearney, Dr. & Mrs. Michael M – \$1,000, high school band uniforms  
 Keller, Charles C. – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 Kennedy, Christopher & Michele – \$50, high school VEX robotics  
 Kennedy, Judith – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Knutson Construction Rochester – \$5,000, greenhouse project  
 Knutson+Casey PC – \$250, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Kohl's – 207 stuffed animals, 36 books (\$1,215 value), elementary school  
 books (\$165 value), elementary school  
 Krabbenhoft, Kelby K – \$5,000, high school hall of fame  
 Keuchle, Terence & Lynn – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 Kuiper, Erin & Aaron – \$600, high school VEX robotics  
 Kuiper, Jane & Tim – \$200, high school VEX robotics  
 Kwik Trip Inc – \$100, high school girls' hockey;  
 \$300, high school VEX robotics  
 L & N Andreas Foundation – \$10,000, high school daycare program  
 Lake Washington Improvement Assn – \$1,000, high school boys' hockey  
 \$2,000, high school girls' hockey  
 \$4,000, high school VEX robotics  
 Lane, Sharon & Richard – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Lindholm, Barbara – \$800, elementary school Angel Fund  
 \$800, elementary school  
 LJP ENT Waste & Recycling LLC – \$250, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Lindsay Windows LLC – \$1,500, high school trades & industry program  
 Lloyd Management – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Lloyd, Wanda – \$100, high school dance program  
 Local Roofing LLC DBA Fairmont, Folie, Becker & Hayward Roofing – \$100, high school wrestling  
 LPL Financial – \$1,500, high school hall of fame  
 Luther Mankato Honda – \$100, high school wrestling  
 M & M Signs – \$500, high school baseball  
 Machado Trust – \$800, high school VEX robotics

Mankato Area Foundation – \$10,000, greenhouse project  
 \$5,500, Online Study Center  
 \$6,500, Middle Schools Project Right Start  
 \$5,000, MAPS Equity Summit Grant  
 \$1,000, Connecting Kids  
 Mankato Area hockey Association – \$949.90, high school boys' hockey for Shooter Tutors  
 Mankato Area United Way – \$3,000, Online Study Center  
 Mankato Area Youth baseball Association Inc. – \$1,310.75, high school  
 Mankato Clinic Foundation – \$12,500, Youth Mental Health Navigator  
 \$1,000, elementary school for playground equipment & sporting goods  
 Mankato Clinic LTD – \$150, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Mankato East Booster Club – \$250, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 \$100, high school Football  
 \$3,625, high school  
 Mankato East Elementary wrestling – \$2,500, high school wrestling  
 Mankato Lions Club – \$100, high school VEX robotics  
 Mankato Motors Company – \$300, high school girls' hockey  
 Mankato West Booster Club – \$616, districtwide  
 Maschka Riedy & Ries – \$500, community education & recreation  
 Movies in the Park \$250, high school dance program  
 McGowan Water Conditioning Inc – \$500, community education & recreation  
 Movies in the Park  
 MNMYF – \$5,200, high schools football  
 Mapleton Marine – \$1,000, districtwide  
 Maschka Riedy & Ries – \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 Master Technology Group – \$1,500, Future Farmers of America  
 Masters, Leroy & Wendi – \$300 to high school girls' softball trip  
 Mayo Clinic Health System – \$2,500, Online Study Center  
 Mayo Foundation for Medical education & Research – \$5,196, elementary school  
 \$5,000, districtwide ALPS sponsorship  
 McGowan Water Conditioning Inc – \$100, high school dance program  
 Mehia, Danielle & Joshua – \$250, early learning  
 MEI Total Elevator Solutions – \$200, virtual math mania contest  
 \$200, youth development program  
 MHS Class of 71 – \$1,000, high school  
 MICO, Inc. – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Micro-Trak Systems Inc – \$200, high school choir  
 Mid-States Mechanical Services Inc – \$250, high school girls' hockey  
 Midwest Fitness Centers LLC – \$150, high school girls' hockey

Miller, Mark & Mary – \$1,000, high school band uniforms  
 MDHA – Bend of the River Chapter – \$250, youth archery program  
 Minnesota education Equity Partnership – \$4,000, districtwide equity summit tech expense  
 Minnesota State University Mankato – \$500, districtwide Fall Kickoff Breakfast \$1,000, Career Expo  
 Minnesota Vikings Foundation – \$1,000, high school football – Coach of the Week Award  
 MinnStar Bank – school supplies (\$350 value), ACES program  
 \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Monolith LLC DBA Mosquito Squad MN-SW MN – \$200, high school girls' softball  
 Morgan Family – VEX IQ Game Field (\$1,200 value), community education VEX robotics program  
 Munchkin Markets LLC – \$200, family learning center early childhood learning  
 Murphy, Christopher & Abby – \$3,000, high school wrestling  
 NEA Foundation – \$2,000, districtwide Envision Equity, Learning & Leadership & Student Success Grant  
 Nesdahl, Judy – \$250, middle school robotics  
 Newton, Keven & Mary – \$100, high school girls' hockey  
 NKato' LLC – \$531, Future Farmers of America  
 Norland, Matthew & Emma – \$1,000, high school band uniforms  
 North Mankato Firefighter Relief Assn. – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Old National Bank – backpack & supplies (\$2,000 value), districtwide  
 Olson Family Chiropractic – \$25, community education & recreation  
 Movies in the Park  
 Operose Manufacturing Inc – \$250, high school dance program  
 Original Blend 1, LLC – \$1,000, high school boys' soccer  
 Orthodontic Specialists of So. Minnesota – \$50, high school prom  
 Orthopaedic & Fracture Clinic – \$250, high school band uniforms  
 Owatonna Lacrosse Association – \$190, high schools boys' lacrosse – helmet masks  
 Oz Family Dentistry – dental care supplies (\$50 value), high school  
 Page/Jones/Richards Foundation – \$5,000, high school band uniforms  
 Pediatric & Adolescent Dentistry, LTD. – \$100, high school prom  
 Peters, Diane – 2005 Toyota Prius (\$1,400 value), high school trade & industry program

PEY Inc d/b/a Pet Expo – \$300, high school girls' hockey  
 Pickell, Tamera L- \$100, high school wrestling  
 Pioneer Bank – backpacks & supplies (\$1,000 value) & books (\$3,000 value), districtwide  
 Plaisance, Jerine & Daniel – \$1,000, high school girls' swim & dive in memory of Hannah Plaisance  
 Post 518 Legion Auxiliary – \$1,055, districtwide  
 Potbelly Sandwich Shop – staff lunch (\$400 value), high school  
 Prairie Ecology Bus Center – \$11,600 grant, elementary  
 Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council – \$12,000 grant, Art & Cultural Heritage \$6,234, Small Arts Grant  
 \$1,550, high school Orchestra  
 String Fest Grant  
 \$10,200, community education grant  
 \$6,000, StoryArk Grant Preiser Living Trust, Maria- Luise – \$200, Nick Hoffman Scholarship Progrowth Bank – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Project hockey LLC – \$100, high school hockey  
 Project Lead the Way Inc – \$7,500, elementary school  
 Project Lead the Way program  
 Quality 1 Hr Foto – \$675, high school athletic department  
 RABO AgriFinance LLC – \$5,000, districtwide Future Farmers of America  
 Rader, Robert & Judith – \$100, high school girls' hockey program  
 Rasmussen University – \$1,000, Career Expo  
 Regents of the University of Minnesota – \$3,475 ADLTS grant, Future Farmers of America  
 \$2,943.50, MAELC grant for Hydroponic Systems & Farm to Fork Renaissance Charitable Foundation  
 \$100, high school hall of fame  
 Ries, Barry & Leah – \$500, Michael W. Ries Memorial Scholarship  
 River Bend Business Products – \$100, high school wrestling  
 River Valley Drywall, LLC – \$100, high school prom  
 River Valley Running – winter boots & outerwear (\$400 value), districtwide  
 Riverridge Chiropractic – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Roise, Geoff & Rebecca – \$500, high school girls' basketball  
 Roise Household – \$1,815.71, high school  
 Sack, Sherry – \$100, Nick Hoffman Scholarship  
 St. Paul & Minnesota Foundation – \$250, Speech Team CTAM Foundation Grant

Sakatah Pioneer Properties – \$500, community education Movies under the Stars  
 Sam's Club – gift cards (\$50 value), community education movie event  
 Sanford Health – \$4,960, high school football 2021 legends grant  
 Sayre, Megan Grems – \$125, high school band uniforms  
 Scheels – Winter hats (\$700 value), elementary school  
 Golf balls & Tees (\$70 value), junior golf program  
 \$150, high school girls' hockey program  
 24 hand sanitizer bottles (\$60 value), elementary school  
 coats, shoes, boots, etc. (\$10,000 value), secondary schools  
 \$1,000, Connecting Kids  
 gift cards (\$150 value), golf supplies  
 Schmidt, Chris – 2001 Toyota Camry (\$2,000 value), high school trade & industry program  
 Schwickerts Tecta America of Mankato LLC – \$250, soccer – Pack the Stands  
 Sertoma of Greater Mankato – \$5,000, deaf & hard of hearing program  
 Dennis & Vivian Siemer Foundation – \$2,800, high schools VEX robotics  
 Simpson Insurance Agency Inc – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 Skinner Family Dentistry – \$500, high school dance program  
 Sletta, Laine & Elizabeth – \$100, middle school group  
 South Central College – North Mankato Campus Foundation – Andy Wendinger Memorial – \$3,000, high school automotive program  
 South Point Federal Credit Union – \$100, Career Expo  
 Southern MN Endodontics – \$2,000, high school VEX robotics  
 \$75 to high school prom  
 Southern MN Initiative Foundation – \$10,000, Family Learning Center Early Childhood Learning Grant  
 Southern Minnesota Orthodontics PA – \$100, high school dance program  
 \$100 to high school soccer – Pack the Stands  
 \$100 to high school dance program  
 Stark, Emily – \$50 to middle school group  
 State of South Dakota – \$811, Future Farmers of America  
 Steindl Business Development Inc LAG Advertising – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Stifel Nicolaus – \$75, high school girls' hockey  
 \$250, high school dance program  
 StoryArk Festival/Camp; \$4,800 grant, Art & Cultural Heritage Adaptive Art Access program



Tailwind Management Inc – \$100, high school wrestling  
 Takamura, Seijen – \$250, high school boys' cross country  
 Target – Minnetonka – school supplies (\$500 value), districtwide  
 Taylor Corp. – \$500, high school VEX robotics  
 The Minnesota FFA Foundation – \$1,500, Future Farmers of America  
 Thomas, Nancy & John – \$500, Nick Hoffman Scholarship  
 Tibodeau Farms – \$500, high school girls' hockey  
 TWI of Dubuque Inc – \$100, high school dance program  
 Unique Specialty & Classic Cars – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Universal Sounds Production LLC – \$1,000, middle school earth science program  
 University of Minnesota – \$5,000, high school LED Retrofit Grant  
 \$3,300 grant, Agricultural Diversity & Leadership/Technical Skills Futures Farmers of America  
 Urbanworks Architecture LLC – \$1,300, high school

V-Tek International – \$1,000, high school VEX robotics  
 Valley News Company Charity Fund – \$250, high school dance program  
 Vandever, Steven & Adela – \$100, elementary school in memory of Jill Gause  
 Vetter Stone Company – \$1,000, high school boys' basketball  
 VIBE Nutrition – \$810, high school dance program  
 Video Services Inc – \$1,000, high school athletics department track-timing system camera  
 Visker, Joe & Erin – mobile stander (\$3,250 value), special education  
 Walgenbach, Wayne – \$500, community education & recreation Movies in the Park  
 \$500, community education Movies under the Stars  
 Wallschlaeger, Josephine – \$200, high school band uniforms  
 Walters, Peggy – \$2,000, high school VEX robotics  
 Wang, Gary & Linda – \$200, high school girls' hockey  
 Waskul, Dennis & Michele – \$300, high school VEX robotics  
 Waskul, Peggy – \$100, high school VEX robotics

Waskul, Peggy – \$100, high school VEX robotics  
 Waters Inc. DBA Jonny B's – \$100, high school wrestling  
 \$350, high school girls' hockey  
 Weelborg Chevrolet – \$150, high school girls' hockey  
 Weggy's on Campus LLC – \$100, high school wrestling  
 Weinandt, Norein & Albert – \$250, high school VEX robotics  
 Western Specialized Inc – \$500, districtwide  
 Whitney, Gary & Jodi – \$1,000, high school cultural liaison  
 Williams, Garron & Stitt, Alyssa – \$100, high school VEX robotics  
 Willow Office Works LLC – \$250, community education Movie under the Stars  
 Winnebago MFG CO – \$100, high school wrestling  
 Wittman, Jody – \$100, high school VEX robotics  
 Wow Zone – \$1,000, high school band uniforms  
 Zhao, Ruijun & Jiao, Qingling – \$100, high school VEX robotics  
 ZOETIS – \$166.66, Future Farmers of America



## MAPS FACILITIES UPDATE

August 2022

Paul Peterson, Superintendent

Mankato Area Public Schools continues to plan for and address facility needs that have been identified and evolving over the last half decade. Our focus is “Something for Everyone” as we address learning and space needs for our youngest-age learners through K-12, and the adult life-long learners in our community.

This summer, we are completing the first phase of repurposing the former MRCI building into an Early Learning Center which will better meet the needs of our district families with preschool aged children.

Facility planning for our elementary students continues as we focus on areas that include safety & security; building capacity; special learning space; cafeteria & physical education needs; and other building and site elements to right-size our neighborhood schools and respond to needs expressed by our families in the Community Survey from last fall.

At the secondary level, we are planning for a Gymnasium/Pool addition at Dakota Meadows Middle School. This would bring us much needed physical education teaching space at the middle level, as well as replace the closed pool at West High School in order to better serve our West attendance area and community. Also at West High School, we are planning to address safety and security with a new accessible entrance from the parking lot.

Finally, our planning at the high school level is focusing on improved access to outdoor learning and physical education activity space that can have multiple uses and be accessed virtually year-round at both East and West. This includes artificial turf fields – something that would bring MAPS into better alignment with our Big 9 Conference schools.

Our planning efforts are now enhanced by the addition of architects from ISG and LSE, partnering with our team to bring creative and practical space planning and concepts to the process.

This fall, the MAPS School Board will begin answering several questions related to facility needs in the district, including the size, scope and timing of a future bond referendum. Asking residents, businesses and property owners to support public schools through a bond election is a serious decision, and the School Board is committed to making sure that any future plans are well communicated with the greater school community.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES HELPING STUDENTS BE SUCCESSFUL**

Mankato Area Public Schools serves students with disabilities from birth through age 21. Federal and state laws guide the school district in identifying, evaluating and serving students with disabilities. A team of special educators, general educators and families work together to develop an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) for students who meet the criteria for services. The team considers the student's present level of performance, identifies educational needs and develops goals to meet those needs in the least restrictive setting.

Mankato Area Public Schools provides a continuum of services for students with disabilities. Special instruction and services are provided in: autism spectrum disorders, blind-visually impaired, deaf-blind, deaf and hard of hearing, developmental cognitive disabilities, developmental delay, emotional or behavioral disorders, other health disabilities, physically impaired, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairments and traumatic brain injury.

Prior to age six, a child who needs special instruction and services because of a substantial delay or identifiable physical or mental condition that hinders normal development is considered a child with a disability. Most students receive special education in their

neighborhood school. The district also has specialized programs for students who need more support.

For more information on identifying, evaluating and providing service to students with disabilities, contact your child's school principal or student support services at 507- 387-1818.

### **RIGHT TO KNOW**

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student who attends Mankato Area Public Schools have a right to know about the professional qualifications of the teachers who instruct their child(ren). The Every Student Succeeds Act provides the right to ask for the following information about each child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the State of Minnesota has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which state licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any instructional aide or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

To receive any of the above information, contact John Lustig, director of administrative services, at 507-387-3017

**Private vs. Public information—important to know**  
**Information...what is private?**  
**What is public?**

The following information is provided to raise awareness about data privacy practices regarding student information.

### **PRIVACY RIGHTS**

Education records are classified as private data on individuals by state law and are accessible only to the student's parent/guardian or a student who is at least 18 years old. The school district may not disclose private records or their contents except as summary data without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian or the eligible student. In some cases, private records may not be accessible to parents/guardians. State law provides that certain information in a student's education records be accessible only to that students and to the parent/guardian under special circumstances, if at all.

### **DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

What is directory information? Directory information includes the student's name, address, telephone number, email address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, attendance dates, grade level, enrollment status, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, degrees, honors and awards received, the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student, photographs of students taking part in officially recognized activities, sports and academic or nonacademic classes or programs and other similar information.

Note: Directory information does not include information about a student's religion, race, color, disability, social position or nationality.

**Is directory information public?**

Is directory information public? Yes. A school district may disclose this information from a student's education records. However, if a parent/guardian or student chooses, the information will not be released without prior written consent except to school officials as a provided under federal law.

**Disclosure of data to military recruitment officers**

Disclosure of data to military recruitment officers The school district will release names, addresses and home telephone numbers of secondary students to military recruiting officers within 60 days after the request date unless a parent/guardian or eligible student has refused in writing the release of this data to military recruiters. Data released under this provision may be used only to provide student information about military service, state and federal veterans' education benefits and other career and educational opportunities the military provides.

**Do I have to release data to military recruitment officers?**

A parent/guardian or eligible student has the right to refuse the release of directory information to military recruiting officers and must notify the Mankato Area Public Schools' director of human resources in writing by September 15 of each year. The written notification must include the names of the student and parent/guardian, home address, grade level, school, parent's legal relationship to student and the

information that should not be released to military recruiters without prior consent. Keep in mind that refusal to release the information does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the rest of the public, including military recruiting officers. To make any directory information about a student private, follow the procedures under "How do I make directory information private?"

**How do I make directory information private?**

A parent/guardian or eligible student must submit a written request that includes the student's name, home address, school, parent's legal relationship and specific category or categories of directory information that should remain private to the building principal within 30 days after the date of the last publication notice. If parents/guardians do not want their child's or eligible student's directory information released to military recruiting officers, the school district must be notified that the directory information should not be released to any member of the public, including military recruiting officers.

**How do I obtain nondisclosures of directory information?**

A written notice from the parent/guardian or eligible student should be sent to the district's director of human resources and must include the student's name, home address, school presently attended by student, parent's legal relationship to student

(if applicable), specific categories of directory information not to be made public without prior written consent, which shall be applicable for that school year.

For more information about public information guidelines, contact John Lustig, director of administrative services at Mankato Area Public Schools, at 507-387-3017 or [jlustil@isd77.org](mailto:jlustil@isd77.org). Written correspondence may be sent to John Lustig at 10 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato, MN 56001.

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE ACCOMMODATION**

Reasonable efforts will be made by the school district to accommodate any student who wishes to be excused from a curricular activity for a religious observance. Requests for accommodations should be directed to the building principal.



# ADVERTISE WITH US!



This activity is made possible in part through a Minnesota State Arts Board Community Arts Education Support grant. It is also made possible by a grant provided by the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council from general funds approved by the Minnesota State Legislature and by the MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

## Mankato Children's Chorus

5 premier choirs representing South Central MN

**Registration Open through September 30  
for the 2022-23 season**

For more information, and to register  
online: [MankatoChildrensChorus.org](https://MankatoChildrensChorus.org)

Monday evening rehearsals start Sept. 12  
Christ the King Church, Mankato

Concerts in December & April, plus a variety of  
community performance events



Participation open to students entering grades 1–12 in the 2022-23 school year



## Celebrating 100 Years of LINCOLN SCHOOL

The Blue Earth County Historical Society in partnership with Mankato Community Education and ISD 77 is celebrating 100 years of Mankato's Lincoln School. The school opened for the 1922/23 school year, so now is the perfect time to commemorate 100 years of the building, the people and the memories.

The History Center will host an exhibit opening October 15. Memorabilia is being accepted now to help tell the story of Lincoln—a school, a community center, a theatre, a sports venue, and... We are in search of photographs, school and/or building memorabilia and unique items to share in this public exhibit.

All items must be loaned to BECHS by September 15 to be included in the exhibit. Items will be on loan with BECHS until January 2023. Don't miss this great opportunity to share your Lincoln School story. If you are interested in loaning or donating items, contact Shelley Archivist@blueearthcountyhistory.com

Watch for details coming soon about special tours of Lincoln, new Facebook page to share memories, and more community opportunities to celebrate and share the history of Lincoln School.

*singing \* dancing \* playing instruments*



**MUSIC AND MOVEMENT CLASSES**  
Newborn – Age 6

**GROUP KEYBOARD CLASSES**  
Ages 6 and Up

**MUSIK GARTEN**

**ANJA SCHEIDEL MUSIKGARTEN STUDIO**  
507-995-5497

[www.makingmusik.com/anjamusikgarten/](http://www.makingmusik.com/anjamusikgarten/)

**Come for the Fun, Stay for the Education**

*\* focused listening \** *\* musical games \**

## Advertise with US!

Contact Laura Conn  
at  
507-387-5501 or  
email [lconn1@isd77.org](mailto:lconn1@isd77.org)



## ADVERTISE WITH US!

A purple-bordered advertisement for the Mankato Area Lacrosse Association. The background features a field of lacrosse sticks. The text is centered and reads: "MANKATO AREA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION", "Attention... all Boys & Girls grades K-5!", "Register for Fall Lacrosse at [www.mankatolax.com](http://www.mankatolax.com)", "Fall Lacrosse is Sundays @ Wheeler Park", "Aug 21 - Sept 18 (excluding Labor Day weekend)", "Details and Registration can be found on the website.", and "Got a question? Email [mala.reg507@gmail.com](mailto:mala.reg507@gmail.com)".

**MANKATO AREA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION**

**Attention... all Boys & Girls grades K-5!**

Register for Fall Lacrosse at [www.mankatolax.com](http://www.mankatolax.com)

Fall Lacrosse is Sundays @ Wheeler Park  
Aug 21 - Sept 18 (excluding Labor Day weekend)  
Details and Registration can be found on the website.

Got a question? Email [mala.reg507@gmail.com](mailto:mala.reg507@gmail.com)



Totally you. Totally fun.  
**Be a Girl Scout!**

Girl Scouts explore art in nature, design digital games, and change their communities. They build forever friendships, take on new adventures, and tell their stories to the world. **Girl Scouts know how to dream big and have fun!**



**Join Girl Scouts.**

To join, scan the QR code on a mobile device or visit us at **[GirlScoutsRV.org/Join](http://GirlScoutsRV.org/Join)**.





# ADVERTISE WITH US!



## Mankato 2022-2023 Dance Schedule

*Classes start September 6th!*

Registrations accepted until Oct. 1st for the performance dance classes listed below.

Session dance classes are listed separately.

1400 Madison Ave Suite 318  
Mankato, MN 56001  
507-625-2005  
[www.dcsmdance.com](http://www.dcsmdance.com)

### Small Children's Classes

#### Wee Dancers Ages 2-3

Designed to introduce music and movement through basic dance and creative movement activities. Black ballet shoes required.

Saturday 10:00-10:30

#### Tiny Ballerinas Ages 3-5 Pink ballet shoes required

Tuesday 5:00-5:30

Saturday 10:30-11:00

#### Preschool Movement Ages 3-4

Develop motor skills, sociability while giving a fun, hands-on introduction to the world of dance. Black tap and ballet shoes required.

Tuesday 5:30-6:00

Saturday 11:00-11:30

**\*Take either Wee or Pre AND Tiny Ballerinas and get the second class for \$27 per month.\***

### Day Time Combos

**\*\*Start October 5\*\***

Ballet, Jazz, and Tap \$40/month

#### Combo E Ages 5-6

Wednesday 1:45-2:30

#### Combo D Ages 7+

Wednesday 2:30-3:15

*\*Subject due to Instructor availability*

### Adult Classes

\$15 per class attend or \$50 for a month

#### Adult Tap

Monday 7:00-7:55

#### Adult Sampler Class

\*Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Ballet  
Saturday 10:00-10:55 am

### Winter Frost \*Starts Jan 4th

\$40/month & Performs in the Spring Recital

Performs in the Spring Recital. Black tap and black ballet shoes required

#### Winter Frost Ages 3+

Wednesday 6:00-6:45 OR Saturday 11:00-11:45

**\*\*No Registration Fee**

### Combo Classes

Ballet, Jazz, and Tap \*Black shoes required

#### Combo A Ages 5-6

Monday 5:15-6:00

Wednesday 5:00-5:45

Saturday 11:30-12:15

#### Combo B Ages 7-8

Wed. 5:00-5:55

#### Combo C Ages 9-10

Thursday 5:30-6:25

### Tap/Jazz Class

\*Black Tap and Jazz Shoes required

#### Tap/Jazz 1

Thursday 7:30-8:25

#### Tap/Jazz 2

Thursday 7:30-8:25

### Boys Classes \$30 per Month

#### Beg. Combo (Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop) Ages 5+

**Wed 5:00-5:55**

#### Inter. Hip Hop Ages 9+ Inter. Tap/Jazz Ages 9+

**Thurs 6:00-6:55 Thurs 7:00-7:55**

### Hip Hop Classes

Ages 6+ Instructor Recommendation

#### Hip Hop 1-2

Tuesday 7:00-7:55

Wednesday 6:00-6:55

#### Boys Intermediate Hip Hop & Hip Hop 3/4

Thursday 6:00-6:55

### Non-Performing Technique Classes

Ballet Tech Must have dance experience. \$75 a month, no discounts.

Ballet Tech 1 Monday 6:00-6:55

Ballet Tech 2 Tuesday 5:30-6:25

Ballet Tech 3 Tuesday 6:30-8:00

#### Ballet Technique

Saturday 11:00-11:55

#### Leaps & Turns

Sat. 10:00-10:55

#### Advanced Technique Ages 12+

Sat 12:00-12:30

#### Tumbling

Saturday 8:00-8:55

### Ballet Classes

Instructor recommendations \*Pink Ballet Shoes required

#### Beginner Ballet Ages 5+

Tuesday 6:00-6:55

#### Pointe (approval only)

Tuesday 8:00-8:55

#### Intermediate Ballet

Thursday 4:30-5:35

#### Pre-Pointe (approval only)

Tuesday 5:00-5:30

#### Lyrical/Ballet

Thursday 6:30-7:25

**Annual Membership Fee** \$20 per dancer if registered by Aug 1<sup>st</sup>. \$30 after Aug 1<sup>st</sup>. Membership fee is non refundable

**Tuition** \$32 for 30 minute classes, \$40 for 45 minute classes, \$50 for 55 minutes classes Discount for multiple classes  
Boys are \$30 per class per month

Performance dance classes are fall through spring commitment and are featured in our winter and spring recitals. Private solo/duet/trio lessons are available on a limited basis. Solo-\$35/half hour. Duet-\$30 per person/half hour. Trio- \$25 per person/half hour.

*\*All subject to change based on Enrollment. Minimum 4 students per class to keep classes.*

**\*\*Costume Packages of \$115-120 will be due in October 2022.**  
Package includes costume, tights when needed, practice cd, & recital t-shirt.

ISD77 Family Learning Center  
820 Hubbell Ave  
Mankato, MN 56001

Non Profit  
US Postage  
PAID  
Mankato, MN  
Permit No. 310

## Mankato Area Public Schools' Preschool Registration for 2022-23....

providing a learning environment to help children prepare for kindergarten and lifelong success.



SCAN TO REGISTER

### REGISTRATION IS EASY

Register online at [mankato.ce.eleyo.com](http://mankato.ce.eleyo.com);  
or go to Early Learning Office at The Family Learning Center;  
820 Hubbell Avenue. For more information call 507-625-4620

\*\*\*\*\* If you need this handbook translated, please contact us at (507) 625-4620. \*\*\*\*\*

- Hadii aad u baahan tahey in buugan lagu turjimo fadlan nagala soo xiriir (507) 625-4620.
- Si necesita traducir este manual, comuníquese con nosotros al (507) 625-4620.
- وانت لازم مترجمة لهذا الدليل أسألنا في هذا الرقم: 507-625-4620

## FAMILY OPEN GYM & PLAYTIME

Parents and their children Birth- Age 5 are WELCOME!  
Family Open Gym and Playtime is great for large muscle development. Riding toys, balls, and more will be available.

**Join us for Open Gym**

**9:30am to 11:30am**

**Sept 16th, 23rd, Oct 14th, 28th, Nov 11th, Dec 9th, 16th**

**Jan 13th, 27th, Feb 10th, 24th, March 10th, 24th**

**April 14th, 28th, May 12th**

**Free! No need to register.**

**Located at the Family Learning Center Gym,  
820 Hubbell Ave, Mankato.**

**Parking is available in the back lot, use door #7 to  
access the gym.**

**Ages Birth to 5.**

