



FOLLOW DR. K /DRK\_ISD624

ISD624.ORG

## Moving Forward

We know that the 2022-23 school year is bound to be one in which our students continue to move forward with gusto, learning and growing in safe, nurturing and challenging environments. We're confident the successes of our students will be showcased this year in the connections they forge with others, the diverse array of activities in which they participate, and in the important lessons learned in their classrooms.

The district's ability to deliver the high-quality learning experiences we know our community expects of us is made possible because our staff continue to maintain a strong commitment to providing instruction tailored to each learner and hands-on learning opportunities that focus on the academic, social and personal development of each student.

Our ongoing ability to serve students is also made possible by support from district residents, which has included give-backs such as donating backpacks and materials, participating in reading programs with students, engaging on important committees and task forces, and supporting district referendums that support overall operations and transformative construction projects. (Speaking of construction projects, those who are interested in seeing the impressive progress on the district's comprehensive facilities planning projects can find complete information and updates at the website page - [www.isd624.org/BuildingOurFuture](http://www.isd624.org/BuildingOurFuture))

In White Bear, it is truly understood that it takes a village.

*Continued on District News page IV*

### Translations:

Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625

Xav tau ntwav Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623

Flip book to see  
Community Services &  
Recreation Catalog



## In this issue

- » **BUILDING CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**  
*School News, Page II*
- » **WE ARE HIRING**  
*District News, Page III*
- » **CALENDARS**  
*School Board News, Page V*
- » **DIGITAL BACKPACK**  
*Important Info, Page VI*

Non-Profit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
St. Paul, MN  
Permit #183

White Bear Lake Area School District  
Community Services & Recreation Department  
4855 Bloom Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110-2371



### Bear Wear Pics!

“Born to be a Bear” onesies are sent to district families upon the arrival of a little one, and “I’m a Bear” shirts are mailed to households when they receive Screen at 3 information. Kindergartners receive shirts when enrollment paperwork is complete.

Email Bear Wear pics to [communications@isd624.org](mailto:communications@isd624.org) and you may find your little one(s) featured in a District publication!

### Building Construction Updates

Since 2019, when the community supported a bond referendum, the list of completed facilities projects has grown to include the South Campus gym addition, Transportation Facility, ALC security renovation, and elementary additions at Lincoln, Matoska, Vadnais Heights and Willow Lane.

Phase 2 is in progress and includes work at Birch Lake, Lakeaires and Otter Lake Elementaries, ALC, and the addition at the current WBLAHS - South Campus, which will be a middle school building when North Campus becomes the site of the unified high school in the fall of 2024. In Hugo, the new North Star Elementary is open for students this fall and construction will begin at Oneka Elementary. Projects in the design phase include Central Middle School and Sunrise Park Middle School site’s conversion to become a multi-use facility to include District Offices, Early Childhood, Transition Education Center (TEC) and the Senior Program.

Complete information about the district’s facilities projects, including details about individual projects and presentations that have been shared at School Board meetings, can be found on the Building Our Future page of the district website at [www.isd624.org/BuildingOurFuture](http://www.isd624.org/BuildingOurFuture).



### Screen at 3

Early Childhood Screening is required by the state of Minnesota for all children prior to entering kindergarten.

The best age at which to screen is age three. White Bear Lake Area Schools provides this screening at no charge.

#### 3 REASONS TO SCREEN AT 3:

- Screening can ensure school success
- If health or developmental concerns are identified, educational services are available
- It is fun and provides parents/guardians with valuable information regarding child development

Register for Early Childhood Screening online at <https://whitebear.ce.eleyo.com> or 651-653-3100

Early Childhood Screening takes place at:  
Normandy Park Education Center  
2482 East County Road F, WBL



### Attendance Boundaries Process

The White Bear Lake Area Schools attendance boundaries are changing in two phases over the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years. The change was made necessary in part by the comprehensive facilities plan that was facilitated in order to accommodate student enrollment and best utilize new/expanded facilities.

A description of the process, attendance boundaries, the attendance boundary design framework, presentations and meeting materials, a Q&A and an attendance area lookup tool can be found on the district’s website at [www.isd624.org/AttendanceBoundariesProcess](http://www.isd624.org/AttendanceBoundariesProcess).

## District-wide Hires



### Lincoln Elementary Principal

Brian Morris, who recently served as Hugo Elementary principal, is the new principal at Lincoln Elementary. Prior to beginning his principalship at Hugo during the 2019-20 school year, Morris was the district's assessment coordinator for six years. Before stepping into roles in administration, he worked for 17 years as a mathematics teacher, teacher leader and curriculum leader at White Bear Lake Area High School - South Campus.



### North Star Elementary Principal

Principal Dan Schmidt begins his tenure this fall as principal at the district's new North Star Elementary, newly built in Hugo as part of the district's comprehensive facilities plan. Schmidt previously served as principal at Lincoln Elementary since 2006. Schmidt previously served in principal roles in North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale and Sartell/St. Stephen's School Districts. He began his career teaching fifth grade at White Bear's Lincoln Elementary in 1990.



### Sunrise Park Middle School Assistant Principal

Ryan Clark is the new associate principal for Sunrise Park Middle School. The position opened when AP Norman Bell accepted a principal position at St. Anthony-New Brighton High School. Clark has worked in the White Bear Lake Area School District since 2014. He has been a Health, Phy Ed and DAPE teacher and an instructional coach. He previously served as Sunrise Park's dean of students.



### Sunrise Park Middle School Dean of Students

Lonal Van is starting this fall as dean of students at Sunrise Park Middle School, a position that became available when former Sunrise dean of students Ryan Clark became the assistant principal. During the last ten years, Van has worked for the Minneapolis Public School District. The new dean of students has experience in the classroom teaching fourth grade and in serving as a middle school dean.



### White Bear Lake Area High School - North Campus Assistant Principal

Joe Held, who for the past two years has served as the dean of student success/BARR coordinator, will serve in an interim associate principal position while partnering with interim BARR and mentor Amanda Schroeder. Current associate principal Dion Harriman's duties will shift to include an oversight role in the unified high school building project, while continuing to fulfill some AP duties including facilities, scheduling and observations.

## WE ARE HIRING! Find Employment info at [isd624.org/employment](http://isd624.org/employment)

We are currently hiring for a variety of positions. We need substitute teachers, bus drivers, Extended Day staff, paras, Nutrition Services staff and more!

These positions are great for retirees, stay-at-home parents, college students, or anybody who enjoys working with students.



- Competitive wages
- On the job training
- Flexible work hours
- Chance to work near home
- Opportunity for: full benefits, paid time off, paid holidays
- Make a difference for kids in your community



Continued from front page

Later this fall, community members will see a capital projects levy renewal question on the November ballot. Renewing this investment, last approved by the community in 2013, puts a variety of educational tools, from classroom technology to books to musical instruments, into the hands of students. This funding also allows us to address equipment needs in the areas of safety and security, and transportation.

The straight renewal of the levy is projected to generate \$2,590,309 annually for an additional 10 years beginning in 2024, with the tax rate for district property owners remaining unchanged.

The funds will be used in the following ways:

- **Safety and security:** The capital projects levy allows the district to maintain and increase safety and security measures and equipment throughout the district.
- **Technology and related services:** The capital projects levy allows the district to provide classroom technology, software and computers for students. Related services include the maintenance of equipment and technology staff.
- **Textbooks, curriculum materials and equipment, and musical instruments:** The capital projects levy allows the district to purchase textbooks, curriculum materials and equipment, and musical instruments according to our curriculum replacement cycle.
- **Transportation:** The capital projects levy allows the district to purchase buses and vans for student transportation.

I look forward to continuing the conversation about the district's capital projects levy renewal, as we hope community members learn all they can about the renewal. I will be visiting with community groups this fall, and public meetings will take place at the following times as well:

- 8:30 a.m. on Tues., Sept. 20 at the WBLAS Senior Center, 2482 East County Road F, WBL
- 7 p.m. on Tues., Sept. 27 at District Center, 4855 Bloom Ave, WBL
- 7 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 5 at Oneka Elementary, 4888 Heritage Pkwy North, Hugo

Additional information about the district's capital projects levy renewal can be found on the district's website at [www.isd624.org/capitalprojectslevyrenewal](http://www.isd624.org/capitalprojectslevyrenewal). I can also be reached at 651-407-7563 or [wayne.kazmierczak@isd624.org](mailto:wayne.kazmierczak@isd624.org).

We appreciate the partnership and support from families and community members as we move forward together to begin this new school year.

Here's to a terrific 2022-23!

Dr. Wayne A. Kazmierczak, Superintendent  
White Bear Lake Area Schools

## FREE Senior Activity Pass

Almost 700 Senior community members (those who are age 65+) who live in the District participate in the Lifetime Activity Pass program and enjoy complimentary admission to school activities.

Please apply online at <https://bit.ly/3aSokLb> and your pass will be mailed to you. If you have questions, please contact Rachael Markuson at 651-407-7563 or [rachael.markuson@isd624.org](mailto:rachael.markuson@isd624.org).



## Our Beliefs

- Each person has innate value.
- Service nurtures both community and self.
- Everyone has the power to design their own future.
- Respect for diversity is strength.
- Integrity is fundamental to relationships.
- Each person has unrealized potential.
- Communities with shared goals have unlimited potential.
- We are stewards of the earth.
- Learning enriches one's quality of life.
- Everyone has a right to a safe and respectful environment.
- Challenge leads to innovation and growth.
- All people deserve unconditional love.

## Coffee with Dr. K

Community members are invited to stop by throughout the academic year for an informal chat with Dr. K over a cup of coffee.

The events will take place at Caribou Coffee in Downtown White Bear Lake at the following times:

- Nov. 16, 2022 from 7:30-8:30 a.m.
- Feb. 8, 2023 from 12-1 p.m.
- May 2, 2023 from 4-5 p.m.

2022 District 624 School Board



**SCOTT ARCAND**  
[scott.arcand@isd624.org](mailto:scott.arcand@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/24



**DEB BELOYED**  
[deb.beloyed@isd624.org](mailto:deb.beloyed@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/26



**KATHLEEN DANIELS**  
[kathleen.daniels@isd624.org](mailto:kathleen.daniels@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/26



**JESSICA ELLISON**  
[jessica.ellison@isd624.org](mailto:jessica.ellison@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/26



**MARGE NEWMASER**  
[margaret.newmaster@isd624.org](mailto:margaret.newmaster@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/24



**CHRISTINA STREIFF OJI**  
[christina.streiffoji@isd624.org](mailto:christina.streiffoji@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/26

**GENERAL SCHOOL BOARD EMAIL ADDRESS:**  
[schoolboard@isd624.org](mailto:schoolboard@isd624.org)

**2022-23 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:**

- Lauren Collier, Gr 12, WBLAHS-South, Representative
- Arianna Vann-Cook, Gr 11, WBLAHS-South, Alternate Representative



**ANGELA THOMPSON**  
[angela.thompson@isd624.org](mailto:angela.thompson@isd624.org)  
 Term expires 12/31/24

**School Board Meetings**

- Sept. 12 ..... Regular Mtng
- Sept. 26 ..... Work Session
- Oct. 10..... Regular Mtng
- Oct. 24..... Work Session
- Nov. 14..... Regular Mtng
- Nov. 28..... Work Session
- Dec. 12 ..... Regular Mtng
- Jan. 9 ..... Regular Mtng
- Jan. 23..... Work Session

- » All Board meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. and take place in the Community Room 112 at District Center (4855 Bloom Ave).
- » Agendas, Board Packets, Minutes, Highlights and Video links are posted on the District's website as they become available.
- » Regular School Board meetings are re-broadcast on Cable Channel 20 in the local viewing area the week of a regular business meeting:
  - Wed. at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. & 9 p.m.
  - Thurs. at 10 a.m.

**Calendars**

The 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic year calendar one-page flyers are now available online on the district's website, directly at [www.isd624.org/about/calendar](http://www.isd624.org/about/calendar).

The 2022-23 Activities Calendar will be mailed to all district families in late-August. Community members who would like a copy of the printed calendar may pick one up at District Center (4855 Bloom Avenue, WBL) in September.

The online calendar available at the district's website allows users the ability to subscribe to building-level and program-specific calendars.

## Stay Connected

### • E-NEWSLETTER

The Community e-Newsletter is sent out each week, with alternating text and video editions. The text editions cover student and staff successes, school and Community Education offerings, and School Board proceedings. Those who wish to be added to the recipient list may contact us via email at [communications@isd624.org](mailto:communications@isd624.org).

### • COMMUNITY CHANNEL

Watch us on Cable Channel 20 in the local viewing area to receive District information and updates. School Board meetings are broadcast after regular business meetings on Wednesday at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Thursday at 10 a.m.

### • STAY SOCIAL

Join White Bear Lake Area Schools' social media circles - Facebook, Twitter and YouTube for daily 624 Fact posts and *The Week in 62.4 Seconds* video share-outs. Find links on the District's website.



/isd624

## Requesting an Interpreter

Families can request that a district staff member call them through the use of an interpreter who speaks the language they speak.

Information about how to make the request can be found in text and audio translations, in all languages spoken by students in the district, on the district website or at the QR code below.



## Digital Backpack

The district's Community Services Department distributes electronic flyers from the school district, as well as local organizations that offer opportunities for youth, on the first and third Thursday of each month.

The Digital Backpack and submission instructions can be found on the district's Community Services website at [communityservices.isd624.org/about/digital-backpack](http://communityservices.isd624.org/about/digital-backpack).

## IMPORTANT DATES

- » **SEPT. 6**  
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL  
Grades 6 and 9
- » **SEPT. 7**  
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL  
Grades 1-5, 7-8, 10-12+
- » **SEPT. 8**  
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL  
Grade K
- » **SEPT. 12**  
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL  
Early Childhood Programs
- » **SEPT. 12**  
SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
5:30 p.m. at District Center
- » **SEPT. 26**  
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION  
5:30 p.m. at District Center
- » **OCT. 10**  
SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
5:30 p.m. at District Center
- » **OCT. 24**  
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION  
5:30 p.m. at District Center
- » **NOV. 8**  
ELECTION DAY  
District-related ballot item:  
Capital Projects Levy Renewal
- » **NOV. 14**  
SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
5:30 p.m. at District Center
- » **NOV. 16**  
COFFEE WITH DR. K  
7:30-8:30 a.m. at Downtown  
WBL Caribou Coffee
- » **NOV. 28**  
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION  
5:30 p.m. at District Center
- » **DEC. 12**  
SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
5:30 p.m. at District Center



The mission of the White Bear Lake Area School District, the community at the forefront of educational excellence, honoring our legacy and courageously building the future, is to ensure each student realizes their unique talents and abilities, and makes meaningful contributions with local and global impact through a vital system distinguished by:

- Students who design and create their own future
- A culture that respects diverse people and ideas
- Safe, nurturing, and inspiring experiences
- Exceptional staff and families committed to student success
- Abundant and engaged community partners





# White Bear Lake Area Schools

Leading minds to learning, hearts to compassion,  
and lives to community service.

Serving the communities of Birchwood, Gem Lake, Hugo, Lino Lakes, Little Canada, Maplewood, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, and White Bear Township.



Enrollment  
information at  
[isd624.org/enroll](http://isd624.org/enroll)

**Translations:**

Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625  
Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623

## Why Be a Bear?

Our students benefit from:

- Safe, nurturing and challenging environments.
- Differentiated instruction.
- Hands-on learning.
- World language experiences.
- Focus on academic, social and personal development of each student.
- Career Pathways opportunities and College-level courses.

## Stay Connected

• **E-NEWSLETTER**

The Community e-Newsletter is sent out each week, with alternating text and video editions. The text editions cover student and staff successes, school and Community Education offerings, and School Board proceedings. Those who wish to be added to the Community e-Newsletter list may contact us at [communications@isd624.org](mailto:communications@isd624.org).

• **STAY SOCIAL**

Join White Bear Lake Area Schools' social media circles - Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

