



ST. MICHAEL-ALBERTVILLE SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE IS OUR TRADITION

KNIGHT VIEW

DISTRICT NEWS

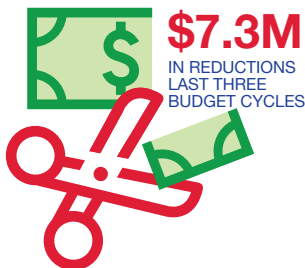
STMA continues to rank 325 out of 327 in per pupil revenue in the state. With no significant changes from the state in the funding formula, and no sustainable local revenue to offset this disparity, STMA must plan for next school year, prioritizing its students while managing the district's budget for the long-term. These decisions will impact all STMA students and families.

So how did we get here?

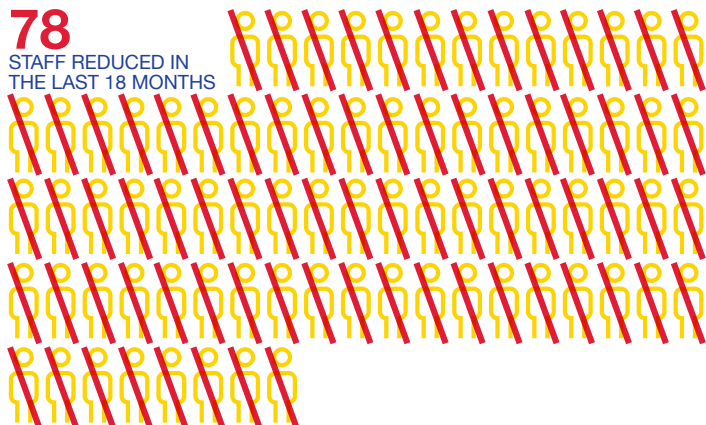
Enrollment drives the funding formula. In the last three years, enrollment growth has stabilized and since 85% of our funding is from the state and is largely based on student enrollment, we are experiencing significant budget shortfalls. With this new reality, we must plan ahead.

To address budget shortfalls, the district is in the midst of making decisions that will impact students, staff, families, and the community for the foreseeable future. This spring, the district cut \$1,317,500 for next school year. These cuts are in addition to the \$6 million in budget cuts during the last two budget cycles and the 78 staff reduced in the last 18 months.

After carefully reviewing staff recommendations and input from district stakeholders, the school board made difficult decisions to balance next year's budget.



78
STAFF REDUCED IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS



Budget shortfalls will result in:

- ↑ Increased class sizes
- ↑ Expanded walk zone
- ↑ Increased student activity fees
- ↑ Increased facility rental fees
- ↑ Increased high school parking fee
- ↑ Credit card user fee
- ↑ Deferred maintenance projects
- ↑ Paused staff professional development
- ↑ Increased open enrollment transportation fees



Future budget projections are bleak and without a sustainable and predictable source of local revenue deeper cuts are ahead. Recently, the school board formed an Operating Referendum Steering Team to explore the possibility of an operating levy in November 2022. This team will study enrollment and budget projections, examine options, and make a recommendation to the school board in June.

In the interim, we will continue to strongly advocate with state leaders for equitable funding for STMA students, staff, families, and taxpayers. We are hopeful that a portion of the state's \$9.25 billion surplus will be allocated to STMA. Please consider advocating for legislation that supports STMA. Check the STMA Legislative Webpage for legislative updates and information regarding the STMA Legislative Advocacy Team.

Budget reductions are difficult and we understand the impacts they have on our students, staff, families, and the community. Together, we will navigate our challenges by putting students first and with an abundance of transparency, creativity, and compassion. We remain committed to our vision of educating the whole child with excellence in academics, arts, activities, and athletics through the empowerment of a world-class staff. #knightspride



ANN-MARIE FOUCAULT
Superintendent

SCHOOL NEWS

ALBERTVILLE PRIMARY

Kindergarten students get the opportunity to tour their elementary school!

Each spring, our kindergarten students get the opportunity to tour the elementary school that they will be attending for first grade. The tour provides students with a brief exposure to their new elementary school and helps students with a successful transition to first grade. Our students love seeing their new gym, cafeteria, and playground. First grade, here we come!



On May 23, kindergarten students will tour the elementary school that she/he will attend next year.

BIG WOODS ELEMENTARY

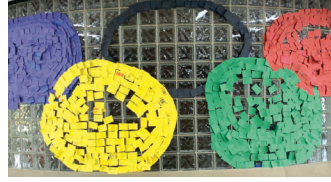
Big Woods Elementary School celebrates many positive behaviors each week. Our PTO sponsors Live Buzz Bingo a few times per year. Students earn coins for books in our book vending machine. Caught Being Goods are celebrated weekly on The Buzz and names are announced to all students and staff. Way to go, Big Woods students!



FIELDSTONE ELEMENTARY

Fieldstone held their own Winter Olympics this past February! The students added a strip when they read 100 minutes to create our Olympic rings! Our 2nd graders won the friendly competition with

the most minutes read (blue ring).



ST. MICHAEL ELEMENTARY

St. Michael Elementary students participated in music concerts and Fitness Frenzy during the 2021-2022 school year for the first time in 2 years. For our 1st and 2nd graders, this was the first time they were able to participate in these activities. The students did a great job and really seemed to enjoy them!



MIDDLE SCHOOL WEST

The Middle School West Destination Imagination team, The Haunted Heroes, is going to their first in-person Global Finals this year! They will face a "Daring Escape" Technical Team Challenge that the students have been preparing aspects of for months as well as an Instant Challenge to surprise them. We wish them all the best luck!



MIDDLE SCHOOL EAST

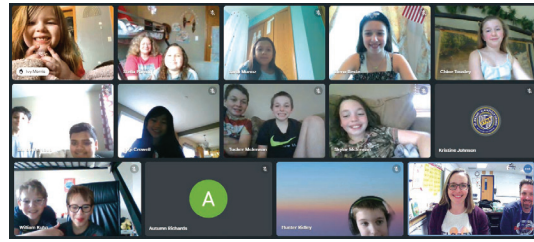
MSE's WEB Program is leading a kindness challenge throughout our school called "Planting the Seeds of Kindness! For every kind action observed, students receive a Knight's Honor Card. Each SEL class is

tracking their kind actions as we promote kindness to celebrate during May!



KNIGHTS ACADEMY

Knights Academy and Wings students went on an all school field trip to the Construct Tomorrow event in St. Cloud. This event focused on hands-on post-secondary career opportunities in the construction and building trades industries.



STMA ONLINE

STMA Online has a weekly Google Meeting for our K-6 students called Virtual Lunch Bunch. On Mondays-Thursdays, **Mrs. Johnson** leads the group and on Fridays, **Mr. Jansen** leads this half hour gathering. This is a space where students can eat together, tell each other about their weeks, and have fun socializing. So far this year we have done a virtual scavenger hunt, played trivia, paper rock scissors tournament, karaoke, and read books together.



HIGH SCHOOL

As the year closes, we are reminded why the work of education is crucial. Seniors who have successfully navigated high school for four years will soon be awarded a diploma. The relationships forged within our walls coupled with an excellent educational experience have our graduates poised to take their next steps with confidence. The work of education is crucial because our students are crucial to our future.



Did you know that STMA received approximately \$3.4 million in grants this school year?

For FY2022, 26 grants were awarded to the district for a total of \$3,407,560!

STUDENT ACTIVITIES



AAA State Wrestling Champions



AAAA State Runner-up Basketball Champions

WRESTLING

Congratulations to the Wrestling team for winning the AAA State Championship on March 3 at the Xcel Energy Center. The Knights completed the season with a 24-0 dual record on their way to the 9th state title in team history.

Individual Wrestlers

Junior **Mason Mills** was the state champion at 113 lbs. for Class AAA. He finished the season with a 42-3 record. Freshman **Landon Robideau** was the state champion at 126 lbs. for Class AAA. He finished the season with a 46-1 record. Congrats, Mason and Landon, on a great season!

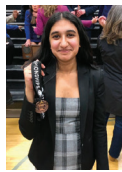
EXCEL AWARD

Junior **Hannah Kvant** was one of 36 students from around the state who was selected for this year's EXCEL award. She was recognized at Williams Arena on March 19. Great work, Hannah!



SPEECH

Senior **Trinity Hanif** (pictured below) and sophomore **Dylan Rich** competed in the State Speech Tournament on April 22. Trinity finished 8th in the state in Extemporaneous Speaking. Great work, students and coaches.



SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS

STMA students again performed amazingly well in the Minnesota Scholastic Art Awards. STMA had 140 winners including 2 American Vision Nominations by **Livia Proudlock** and **Audrey Kanu**. Great job by our students and the STMA Art Department.



Artwork pictured L to R by: **Audrey Kanu** and **Livia Proudlock**.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Girls Basketball team completed an outstanding season by finishing 2nd in the state in Class AAAA. The team lost to Hopkins in the State Championship at Williams Arena on March 20. Great job, players and coaches!

MATH LEAGUE

The Math League team qualified for the State Meet for the first time in school history. Congratulations to the students and Director **Gordy Schlangen!**



STAFF NEWS

2022 Retirees

Congratulations to our 2022 retirees! We are celebrating the following staff members:

Patricia Neumann, 5th Grade Teacher, 25 years; **Colleen Curran**, 3rd Grade Teacher, 33 years; **Angela Slyter**, Kids Play Supervisor, 23 years; **Dolores Helgeson**, Food Service Director, 39 years; **Jay Markfort**, Night Lead Custodian, 16 years; **Doreen Ferguson**, Health Paraprofessional, 15 years; **Lori Autio**, Social Studies Teacher, 20 years; **Jennifer Lesniak**, Custodian, 15 years; **Daniel Bjork**, Custodian, 15 years; **Judith Wood**, Kids Play Paraprofessional, 19 years; **Mary Von Bank**, 5th Grade Teacher, 29 years; **Curtis Hahn**, English Teacher, 31 years; **Gregg Greeno**, Math Teacher, 42 years; **Susan Fox**, Health Paraprofessional, 11 years; **Catherine Thomas**, Social Worker, 23 years;

Susan Hermanson, Kindergarten Teacher, 33 years; **Marcia Lindenfelser**, Kids Play Paraprofessional, 17 years; **Lori Leathers**, ELL Paraprofessional, 12 years.

Together, these retirees make up over 400 years of service to the STMA district!

2022 Hall of Fame Inductees

Congratulations to **Scott Sukalski** and **Franklin Blake** for their induction to the 2022 STMA Hall of Fame!

Mr. Scott Sukalski is being inducted because of the incredible impact he has made on thousands of students during their school years at STMA. It didn't matter if someone was the most talented athlete in the state, the top student in their class, or the most off-key singer in the



Knightengals, Mr. Sukalski understood that every student's experience was important and should be valued.

As a coworker, Mr. Sukalski was hardworking, thoughtful, and fair. He valued collaboration and creative problem solving with colleagues to meet all students' needs. He was consistent and reliable, in and out of the classroom.

During Mr. Sukalski's tenure as a teacher, coach, and middle school activities director, he always put the needs, wellbeing, and experiences of students above all else. He has truly contributed to STMA's tradition of excellence.

Mr. Franklin Blake truly dedicated his life to the STMA



district. He worked as a full-time employee from 1972-2012 and continued to work in the district as a substitute custodian after retirement from 2012-2019. His dedication was boundless.

Mr. Blake was instrumental in the successful opening of several new buildings in the district. Nothing was overlooked by Mr. Blake and no job was too big or too small for him and his team. He led with a quiet confidence and his steady demeanor was noted and appreciated by all who were fortunate enough to work with him.

During his impressive tenure at STMA, Mr. Blake worked diligently to keep each building safe and welcoming for the students and staff. His standards for excellence live on today and his work ethic, attention to detail, and leadership at each building set a standard for everyone to follow.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

We are so excited to offer another summer full of classes, activities, and family events to keep you busy and learning all season long. Be sure to check our website periodically at www.stma.ce.eleyo.com as we add classes throughout the summer. Come join us and take advantage of a busy summer in STMA Community Education.

CREDIT CARD FEES

Beginning July 1, a fee associated with any credit card payment will be applied across all district registration and payment platforms. These fees are percentage based and reflect what credit card companies charge to use their product. This change in fee policy was approved by the STMA school board earlier this year.

SWIMMING LESSONS

We have our full array of swimming lessons on the schedule for this summer! We have our Red Cross Level 1-6 classes with many different options to meet your busy family's needs, as well as a few spots remaining in our preschool-aged classes. Remaining spots are limited, so register today! Please call our Aquatics Coordinator, **Tom**, with questions at **763-497-2655 ext 3554**.

YOUTH ENRICHMENT CLASSES

Pack your summer with STEM Classes, art camps, tie-dye parties, and more. Great programs for all ages are being offered, and filling fast! New sessions and classes are being added often so be sure to follow us on Facebook or look at our website throughout the summer. Check out the NEW Cake Pops, Chess



Club, "Bored" Games, Mathletes, Kids Photography Camp, and Family Kayaking classes that were recently added online.

YOUTH SPORTS

We are proud to offer a full schedule of sports offerings this summer, so whether your children are interested in tennis, track and field, soccer, or want to try something new, we have a camp or class that is perfect for them. Our popular high school Speed and Strength program is also back for another dynamic season. If you have a little one, we have our evening t-ball program and a daytime outdoor games class to keep them active and engaged.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION CLASSES (ABE)

ABE helps adult learners who want to acquire or improve their math, reading, or writing skills. Some learners might need to brush up on their skills before taking the GED test. Others are learning information for the first time in the ESL (English as a Second Language) program. No need to register. Call **763-497-6550 ext. 1** for information.

Basic Skills & GED – Thursdays
6:30-9:00pm Community Ed Room 305
ESL – Mon. & Wed. 8:30-11:00am and
Tue. & Thur. 6:00-8:30pm

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Grab your friends or family, channel your creativity, and check out the fun new classes offered this summer! Mug Making Class, Date Night Pottery, Mini Fondant Cake Decorating, Family Paint Pouring,

and Wood Pallet Sign Party are all new to our summer programming. These classes are popular this summer, so don't wait to register.

ADULT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Take some time this summer to focus on your mental health with new wellness offerings including Intro to Meditation, Listening to Your Intuition, Releasing Life Experiences, and Mindfulness in your Present Moment. If you're looking to get active, check out our summer Pound classes on Tuesdays.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Our littlest Knights have had a terrific year of fun and learning! ECFE was back to full capacity and we welcomed many new faces and old friends. Help the kids stay screen-free this summer- we have openings in Run and Read and the Busy Bag classes. Have a kindergartener in the fall? Help them prepare this summer with Stepping into Kindergarten at the Albertville Primary. We are excited to plan for new classes and the familiar favorites this fall. If you are new to the area and want more early childhood information, contact **Jane** at **763-497-6512**.

KIDS PLAY - WE ARE HIRING!

We are hiring for summer and fall positions! We have a variety of schedules available. If interested, check out the Employment tab of our website or scan QR code >



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