



Nurturing BRILLIANCE

The Official Newsletter of ISD282

The Class of 2023 celebrated graduating from St. Anthony Village High School on Friday, June 9, 2023. Please join us in celebrating their next step in life! Go Huskies!

Summer 2023

SUMMER 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

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November 7, 2023
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MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

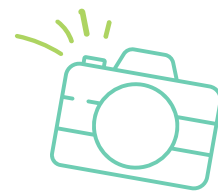
CONGRATS ON ANOTHER BRILLIANT SCHOOL YEAR!

Our first graduating class from St. Anthony Village High School was in 1963 and, this month, we celebrated the Class of 2023. We are grateful our strong, caring community continues to support public education. It's evident when we see our community members attend sporting events, play performances or help volunteer with local organizations. Our community demonstrates and models citizenship, showing our students how to positively contribute as a thriving citizen, harness skills and a love of learning and thrive emotionally and socially in adaptive environments. We are working to continue creating inclusive spaces where our students feel this way everyday, and we couldn't do it without your support. Thank you for another terrific year and we'll see you back in the fall!

Dr. Renee Corneille
Superintendent

A picture is worth a thousand words

Check out a year of pictures at our schools



Did you know that the first class to graduate from SAVHS was in 1963? That makes this year's graduation class the 61st class to celebrate their accomplishments! To honor this year's class, lawn signs of each graduate were lined along 33rd Ave. NE, right in front of the school.

It's SAVHS tradition that graduates walk around the school community on the day of commencement, and the preschool students were ready to greet and cheer for them!



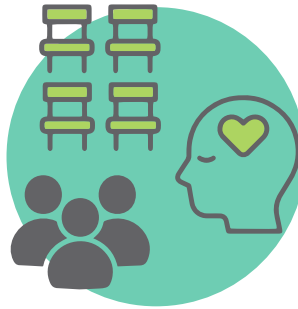
ST. ANTHONY - NEW BRIGHTON SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES RESOLUTION FOR NOVEMBER 7, 2023 ELECTION

On Tuesday, June 6, the St. Anthony - New Brighton School Board unanimously approved a resolution to place two referendum questions on the ballot for the November 7, 2023, election. We wanted to share this development and how it will positively impact our students' learning and foster their development.

The money generated from the operating levy will support our student's social-emotional needs, increase staff at our schools, provide additional support to multilingual students and special education students, and redesign curriculum that works to challenge our students.

There will be two referendum questions on the ballot:

1. The first question, an **operating levy**, seeks approval from voters to increase general education revenue by \$890 per student. This ten-year operating levy would be applied to taxes payable starting in 2024. Our local operating levy generates 15% of the school district's annual operating revenue and pays for teachers who engage students in learning. The tax impact for a home valued at \$300,000 is \$29 per month.



2. The second question, a **capital projects levy**, asks voters to consider renewing the school district's existing levy. There is no additional tax impact to renew this levy. The capital projects levy provides specific funding to support tools for learning-improve and maintain technology and curriculum for school instruction and school facilities.



Voter Information

While election day is November 7, 2023, residents of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District can register to vote or update your voter registration now.



Early voting begins on September 22, 2023, learn how to vote absentee at ramseycounty.us.



To vote in person on November 7, 2023, find your polling place at pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us.

We look forward to communicating about the referendum later this summer into early fall.

Is the school district fully funded yet? Not quite. *The impact of the Education Omnibus Bill on SANB*

For public school districts state funding is tied to student enrollment. About 70% of our general fund revenue comes from the state and is used for the operation of our schools and facilities.

While the Omnibus Education bill includes an increase in funding for schools, it also includes increased mandates and expenditures. These mandates have the potential to exceed the revenue provided by the state and put additional pressure on district finances both short- and long-term. Other key points of the bill include:

- A general education funding formula increase of 4% for 2023-2024 and 2% for 2024-2025.
- The general education funding formula will be linked to inflation beginning in 2025-2026, which means funding for schools will increase in future years as inflation rises.
- Funding to reduce the "special education cross subsidy," which means that districts will need to use less general education funding to cover part of required special education costs. The current proposal reduces the cross subsidy for districts to 44% for the next three years.

Our two levies, being voted on this fall, will allow us to combat these additional costs by increasing staff at our schools, redesigning curriculum to meet the needs of each student, improving technology tools for learning and updating our facilities.

We will continue to communicate these impacts to the SANB community as we learn more about the bill.



Scan the QR code for links to voter information.

Ever WE ARE BRIGHTER.

We are a community and district united as a family. With inspiring students like Naomi and staff like Linda, we are Ever Brighter.



Naomi Teshome and her *spirit of activism, shaping public policy*

Naomi Teshome started out small.

"I would go into the middle school classes – Ms. Schwintek's and Ms. Pivec's – and talk about how they, the students, can amplify their own voices," Naomi said.

It grew out of her involvement as an activist and by leading walkouts. It felt good to disrupt the system. To make not only her voice heard but others who could not speak.

Over time, she saw that her efforts, while important and virtuous, weren't creating the impact she desired. That's when she turned her gaze to legislative reform, using her power and brilliance to affect change at the state and national level.

Naomi is an 11th grade student at St. Anthony Village High School, who is also the president of Key Club and a member of the Minnesota Youth Council (MYC). The MYC is the only state youth council in the country. She meets frequently with other school representatives from different congressional districts and reviews bills to discuss with state senators and representatives.

She's working on both a lead pollution bill and the Minnesota Youth Council bill, which would make the group state-funded and a part of the Minnesota government – a first in the nation.



I want to make changes to my school district that are visible and impactful to students' lives, and to continue having fun."

- Naomi Teshome

As a PSEO (post-secondary enrollment option) student, Naomi takes a public policy class at the Minneapolis Community Technical College (MCTC). There, she can explore ideas and concepts that impact the world community, not just the United States.

When she's not helping rewrite legislation, speaking to classrooms or leading discussions with her peers, Naomi guides students through volunteer activities in Key Club, a Kiwanis partner focused on community service.

"It's something that grounds me and that is so tight knit in the community. Key Club reminds me that I'm still really young and can do something," Naomi said.

Naomi hopes to explore foreign policy and international relations, with an emphasis on environmental science, beyond high school. She has big plans for her life and wants to use her senior year to ground herself and come back to the community.

"I want to make changes to my school district that are visible and impactful to students' lives, and to continue having fun," said Naomi.

Thank you Naomi for inspiring others to shine bright! You are Ever Brighter.



Linda Amundsen *celebrates 30 years*

In her 30th year of service, Linda Amundsen, food service manager at the high school and middle school, feels it has gone so fast.

"I've been fueling students for three decades! Nutrition is a key factor to learning, and feeding students is my passion," said Linda.

Linda has learned what it means to be of service in trying and difficult times. Her team has always served students despite nail biting situations when things didn't go according to plan.

"You need to be able to change in the moment and be flexible," Linda said. "Even when it seemed like things weren't going to work out, we pulled through and made sure each student was fed."

Linda's seen many changes, including a complete revamp of the school lunch and new building renovation. Recently, the team has adopted Farm to School, a government-funded program that brings local, fresh vegetables and fruits and other foods to schools.

"Linda creates a culture in her kitchen that makes staff feel like an important member of the kitchen family," said Angie Richey, nutrition services supervisor. "She is a reliable leader who is a true champion for children's nutrition, ensuring that no child goes hungry on her watch."

As a caring, professional and fair leader, we're incredibly proud of her passion for providing high quality food and treating each student as if they were her own child.

Thank you food service for being leaders who are Ever Brighter in how they prepare and show up for students.

How our district measures success

Our students deserve the absolute best when it comes to education. Our goals include eliminating achievement disparities, improving educational equity, and measuring our progress toward those goals.

We're doing things differently. Our operational goals, which help our leadership define their actions for the next three years, measure impact and use our success metrics as the end goal.

Our success metrics are what we use to measure the success of our students after graduation. They include:



Harness academic skills and a love of academic learning.



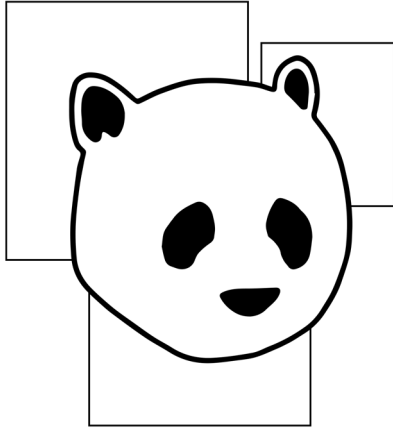
Thrive emotionally and socially in adaptive environments.



Positively contribute as a thriving citizen to their community.

This type of critical thinking is pushing us closer towards providing equitable learning to all students, while also keeping our teachers and staff accountable. Overall, it's a powerful method of data collection that will be very useful in the coming months and years!





Wilshire Park Elementary: Everyone can read

Maria Roberts, Wilshire Park Elementary Principal, is a fierce advocate for literacy. She, alongside with Jaimee Stanley, the district literacy coordinator, plan to reshape how Wilshire Park approaches phonics and reading instruction.

Principal Roberts, recently featured in the Star Tribune, advocated for a district literacy coordinator to support the development of teachers in literacy instruction and alignment from Kindergarten to 5th grade.

This work wouldn't be possible without support from the Minnesota Legislature and from the community. With additional support, we believe students will have a greater love of learning and be emotionally and socially adaptive.

St. Anthony Middle School: Building strong partnerships with students

St. Anthony Middle School Principal Amy Kujawski is no stranger to pivoting at a moment's notice, and making a situation better and brighter. In the fall, Principal Kujawski was dealing with a medical condition that took her away from SAMS. It was a difficult time, especially for our students. Despite it all, Principal Kujawski kept true to her mission of building strong partnerships with students, which included a one-of-a-kind model of student engagement not often seen in other middle schools.

This year, our SAMS teachers provided students with extra learning time and opportunities for more options. Student clubs, which are multi-grade-level, offer partnerships across all three grades and the chance for students to get to know each other on a deeper level. One student group, GSA, helped build a safe and welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ students and allies. New this year was 8th grade capstone projects, a youth-led design challenge that brought students together to create ideas for action in their local community and a night to celebrate the unique contributions and interests of students. Our teachers, with the support of Principal Kujawski, made this year truly special for our students and we're so happy for their partnership!



The Green Team hosted a clothing drive, where Huskies, young and old, could donate their old gear to reduce waste in landfills. The Green Team is a newer group to the high school, focused on being good environmental stewards in their community.

St. Anthony Village High School: Compassion from students creates leadership and growth

Principal Norman Bell, who just finished his first year as principal at St. Anthony Village High School has seen an incredible amount of compassion and motivation from students toward other students this year. Students have spoken up, asking for more courses and activities to be added that align with their passions. The Muslim Student Association and Student Council have also been opportunities for students to get involved which has led to greater engagement. Over 70% of our students participate in some kind of activity, giving testament to the myriad of opportunities available to all.