

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

COMMUNITY EDUCATION THANKS YOU!
This year we had over 4,000 participants in enrichment classes, sports, and early childhood programs. From ECFE up through Adult Basic Ed classes, our community came together to learn, grow, and try something new! We'd like to thank all our local staff, instructors, and participants who joined us for a successful year. If you have a hobby or skill you'd like to share, please contact maryellenb@mystma.org.

SUMMER FUN AT COMMUNITY EDUCATION
Community Education will be bringing back the fun this summer! We have classes for all ages, a variety of team and individual sports, trips, and more. Check out the highlights in the Spring/Summer Brochure available online at stma.ce.eleyo.com or the paper copy which arrived in your mailbox late March.

SWIMMING LESSONS
Add swimming lessons to your family's calendar this summer. We have specialized Parent/Tot and Dolphins classes for kids 5 and under and our Red Cross Level 1-6 classes with many different options to meet your busy family's needs. If you have any questions, please call our Aquatics Coordinator, **Tom**, at **763-497-2655 ext 3554**.

YOUTH SPORTS
Keep the kids active this summer! We offer most any sport you can think of! Golf and tennis lessons, soccer and football camps, running clubs, and more! Classes are taught by current coaches and former players sharing their knowledge and skills.



ECFE families enjoyed a Sock Hop Dance Party in March!



Get ready for summer - a great variety of classes for all ages!

YOUTH ENRICHMENT CLASSES
Keep your student busy this summer with any of our engaging classes! Summer has a lot in store for all ages including new 3-5 year old classes, trendy middle school classes like NAILED IT, and Family Pottery is returning for a summer session! This class fills fast but is truly a blast! We have also partnered with Wright County Parks and Recreation to offer nature based day camps at Beebe Lake Group Camp.

ADULT HEALTH AND WELLNESS
Adult Health & Fitness programs have received a makeover with a handful of new classes! Instructor **Casey Smith** has expanded her class offerings to include Ladies Tone & Tighten, Personal Training, Family Bootcamp, and a Fitness Design Program! **Kristie Walker** joined us this fall and has added Chair Dance Yoga, Ener-Chi, Dance Fitness, and Yoga for all physical abilities. We continue to offer the popular Pound and Barre Fusion classes as well.

ECFE SUMMER OFFERINGS
We have a variety of fun classes for your littlest ones this season. Classes are grouped by age so each lesson is geared toward a specific developmental level. Have more than one child to register? Thursdays are a mixed-age group, so all are welcome. Classes are all parent/child

and led by our current ECFE staff! Art, music, science, and adventure are in store for all our youngest friends!

NOW HIRING!
Kids Play is hiring for the summer! We also have yearly positions in our before/after school childcare program. The Activity Center is also looking for evening and or weekend supervisors. We also need high school student aides to help with evening T-Ball classes. If interested in employment, please visit the school district website to apply under the employment tab.

ACTIVITY CENTER
Individual, family, and student memberships are available for purchase at the High School Activity Center or online at the Activity Center website. The Activity Center has basketball courts, baseball/softball cages, a fitness center, and an indoor walking/running track for the public to use. Health insurance reimbursement plans are available. Birthday party packages are available on weekends.



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ST. MICHAEL-ALBERTVILLE SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE IS OUR TRADITION

KNIGHT VIEW

DISTRICT NEWS

Over the past few months we have been working collaboratively with staff and our community partners to revise our current year budget and adjust our five-year financial forecast.

Revised Budget
The revised FY2023 budget was approved by the school board in February 2023. It shows a deficit spend of \$545,492 and a 15.4% fund balance. A 15.4% fund balance is great news as it is above the 12% minimum target per School Board Policy 714- Fund Balance. This shows we tightened our belts by making budget cuts, were creative, and made do with a lot less.

Five-Year Financial Forecast

General Fund	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Revenue	76,616,624	77,151,587	78,317,037	79,568,290	81,318,837
Expenditures	78,303,598	80,930,835	83,671,025	86,465,976	89,316,782
Spending Variance (Deficit)	(1,686,974)	(3,779,248)	(5,353,988)	(6,897,686)	(7,997,945)
Estimated Fund Balance					
Restricted & Assigned	7,599,848	7,917,940	8,246,032	8,584,124	8,932,216
Unassigned	9,437,166	5,339,826	(342,254)	(7,578,032)	(15,924,069)
	17,037,014	13,257,766	7,903,778	1,006,092	(6,991,853)
Unassigned Fund Balance %	12.1%	6.6%	-0.4%	-8.8%	-17.8%

Based on an independent audit completed in December and updated enrollment data, the five-year financial forecast for FY2024 through FY2028 was also revised. There are two important points to note from this financial forecast.

- 1 The projected budget for next year, FY2024, shows a deficit of close to \$1.7 million, which is a fund balance of 12.1%. This is above the 12% minimum target per School Board Policy 714. In June 2022, when projections were shared with the school board, we thought the deficit would be \$2.7 million, which meant cuts of 30-35 staff, cuts to activities, and more. We were able to decrease the deficit because we made budget cuts, were creative, and made do with a lot less.
- 2 A FY2024 fund balance of 12.1% is good news but

the bottom line is the problem is not fixed, it is delayed. FY2025 shows a deficit of almost \$3.8 million and a fund balance of 6.6%, which is below the 12% minimum target set in policy. Even worse, in FY2026, we could be in statutory operating debt, with a deficit of \$5.4 million and a negative fund balance of -.4%.

Next Steps
In typical years, with a fund balance of 12.1% projected for FY2024 administration would be recommending cuts to the school board as 12.1% is very close to the minimum percentage of 12% set in policy. However, with the state's record surplus of \$17.5 billion and promises from the governor and legislators of significant education funding, the school board recently approved the following:

- No cuts for next year, FY2024.
- No operating levy in November 2023.
- Hiring additional staff this spring/early summer if we receive additional funding from the legislature (the session is scheduled to end on May 22).

While this information does not "fix" our situation, it is good news and provides hope. A few months ago we thought we would be cutting 30-35 staff members with

no relief in sight for our high class sizes. Our situation has changed and instead of cutting we are hopeful we can add staff to reduce class sizes and provide some relief for our students and staff.

We will continue to strongly advocate with state leaders for equitable funding for our students, staff, families, and taxpayers. Regardless of the outcome of the legislative session, 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!



In May, kindergarten students will tour the elementary school that they will attend next year.

BIG WOODS ELEMENTARY

Each spring the Big Woods 4th grade leadership team partners with the Hanover Food Shelf to collect items for families in need. This year, students in grades 1-4 collected 1,814 food items and \$174 which was donated to the food shelf. Big Woods students are generous and filled with compassion. Great job, Big Woods.



FIELDSTONE ELEMENTARY

Fieldstone started a 4th Grade Safety Patrol this year. The students attended a safety camp this past summer in Brainerd. We appreciate their leadership

in getting our walkers to and from school safely. **Amy Nelson**, our planning room paraprofessional, is the advisor.



ST. MICHAEL ELEMENTARY

The St. Michael Elementary PTO is using donated money to purchase a playground structure that will be added on to our existing playground. Thank you to the Hanover Athletic Association and local businesses for their generous donations, as well as the families who donated to our Read-A-Thon. The structure will be installed toward the end of August 2023.



This is a picture of what the playground structure will look like.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EAST

School counselors, **Amy Kornovich** and **Jessica Mesna**, alongside High School principal, **John Reeves**, presented to 8th graders about high school and beyond. Career exploration activities were also introduced to this group. Our 8th graders are anxiously awaiting this spring's tour of the high school before their last days at Middle School East! We can't wait to follow the stories that our students create in their next chapter!



QUESTIONS? If you have questions about anything you read in this newsletter, please call us at 763-497-3180!



MIDDLE SCHOOL WEST

In April, Middle School West students participated in several different Exploratory Day Events. Bowling, Whirlyball, building Wood Duck Houses, visiting Feed My Starving Children, and many other events were attended.

STMA ONLINE

In February, the STMA Online K-6 program held an in-person party in the community ed building. It was so nice seeing everyone and socializing together. We played games like bingo and enjoyed pizza and snacks.



KNIGHTS ACADEMY

During the month of February, Knights Academy student council led a clothing drive. They made it a competition amongst advisory classes. We collected over 100 items of clothing and donated it to the St. Vincent DePaul store in St. Michael.



HIGH SCHOOL

Celebrating a sense of community is central to the student experience at STMA High School. From our celebration of Snow Week to our state championship winter season, students have been able to partake in memorable experiences that can only be forged in a school environment. We are fortunate to have an incredible student body that takes pride in what it means to be a Knight.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

STMA Schools is making improvements to our website and want to get feedback from our students, staff, families, and community members! Please let your voice be heard about this important communication tool. Scan the QR Code to complete the survey now through May 25.



APPAREL

The STMA Community has many great local options for STMA Apparel. An option is the 24/7 online store through BSN. Visit **stmaknights.com** for more information.



SENIOR CITIZENS

Any St. Michael or Albertville residents who are **age 65 and over** can pick up a **free yearly activity pass** by stopping in the Activities Office or the District Office at Middle School West during school hours. Please bring proof of residency.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The girls basketball team won the 3rd State Championship in program history defeating Hopkins in the state championship! The team played in front of a huge crowd at Williams Arena on. It was an amazing experience and a great accomplishment for the players and coaches!

Senior Girls Basketball player, **Tessa Johnson**, has won numerous individual awards this year. She participated in the McDonald's All-American game in Houston on March 28 and was named Miss Basketball Minnesota as well as Gatorade Player of the Year for Minnesota.



WRESTLING

The wrestling team completed an outstanding season finishing 2nd in the state in class AAA. The Knights lost a hard fought dual to Hastings in the State Championship at Excel Energy Center. Congrats to the coaches and wrestlers on a great year. Junior **Jed Wester** was the state champion at 160 pounds for class AAA. He finished the season with a 43-2 record. Sophomore **Landon Robideau** was the state champion at 132 pounds for class AAA winning his 2nd state title. He finished the season with a 49-0 record.



Girls Basketball State Champions



Wind Ensemble



VIVACE CHOIR

The STMA Vivace Treble Choir was invited to perform at the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Conference.

WIND ENSEMBLE

The STMA Wind Ensemble performed at the University of Minnesota Concert Band Festival. The previous night they attended the Minnesota Orchestra.

EXCEL AWARD

Juniors **Joe Duerr** and

Fae Bromley were selected as this year's ExCEL Award recipients from STMA. These two are leaders within our school, participate in MSHSL activities, and volunteer within the community.

AAA AWARD

Seniors **Madi Gartner** and **Taten Harrison** were chosen as this year's AAA Award winners for STMA. They both excel in the arts, athletics, and academics and represent STMA in a positive way in all aspects!

STAFF NEWS

Hall of Fame Inductees

STMA is thrilled to induct **Mrs. Cheryl Hathaway** and **Ms. Gale Kessler** into the Hall of Fame.

As a music teacher at STMA, **Mrs. Cheryl Hathaway** set the bar for excellent music programs. She inspired her students and helped them excel in music. She was kind, encouraging, and held high expectations for her students.



In the early years, before an established music curriculum at STMA, Mrs. Hathaway set out to create her own. Mrs. Hathaway and her famous sidekick puppet, Happy The Horse, created special

learning moments that grown students remember fondly today. In addition, she incorporated movement and instruments into her teaching, an effective framework still used at STMA today.

In retirement, Mrs. Hathaway continued to attend the music concerts and substitute teach in our STMA music classrooms. She taught piano and guitar through Community Education. She shared her talent by performing alongside current and former students in community theater.

As a special education paraprofessional, **Ms. Gale Kessler** was the epitome of patience and adaptability. She always put her students' needs above her own. Ms. Kessler consistently put in the



extra effort to ensure students had what they needed to understand new academic, emotional, and social concepts.

She spent countless hours connecting with students and trying to help them succeed through hands-on experiences. One of those experiences was the development of the beloved Fieldstone Garden. She taught the importance of caring for nature and grew a love of nature in many students. She was an exemplary staff member dedicated to creating a safe, educational environment for all while promoting positive attitudes and self-worth.

Ms. Kessler embodies our district's mission statement: 'to provide a safe, educational environment where students develop lifelong learning skills that nurture positive attitudes and self-worth'.

STMA Teacher Among MN Teacher of the Year Finalists

Mr. Josh Mann, a 9th-12th grade social studies teacher and high school theater director, has been selected as one of 11 finalists for the 2023 Minnesota Teacher of the Year. Education Minnesota gives the Award. Nominees range from Early Childhood Educators to Adult Basic Education teachers in public and private institutions.

Mr. Mann demonstrates the highest standards of an educator daily. His passion for education shines through in his work with students. He exemplifies our strong tradition of excellence.

