



WINDS
SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 7	First Day of School - Kindergarten/RSK
Sept. 11	PTA Back to School Family Night, 5-7 p.m.
Sept. 14	Curriculum Night, Grades 1&2, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 14	PTA Meeting, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Media Center
Sept. 15	Grade 5 Kindness Retreat
Sept. 20	PTA Mom's Night Out at Maynards,
Sept. 21	Curriculum Night, Grades 3,4 & 5, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	Walk & Roll to School Day
Oct. 5	Family Pizza Party 5-7 p.m.
Oct. 11	PTA Dad's Night Out
Oct. 12	School Pictures 4-7 p.m.
Oct. 12	Conferences 3-7 p.m.
Oct. 13	NO SCHOOL - Conferences 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Oct. 13	School Pictures 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We had a great start yesterday for students in grade 1-5. Kindergarten begins this Thursday. This is the first edition of Winds, the school newsletter, that is sent out to all parents on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. Below you will find topics in bold lettering to help you determine if the item applies to you and your family. Our goal is to save you time so you will read the information pertinent to you. In addition to the weekly Winds newsletters, your child's teacher will provide you with classroom and grade level information.

Early Dismissal Plan In the rare event of an emergency such as an early school dismissal due to inclement weather, you need to talk over arrangements with your child ahead of time and complete the link below with this information. Please fill out this Google form by Friday, September 11: [Early Dismissal Plan](#) (corrected link) This information will be shared with teachers and kept in the office in the event of an early dismissal.

Mondays are Deephaven School Spirit Days where students are encouraged to wear blue, such as their blue Tonka shirts. Picking clothes out on Sunday night just got a whole lot easier.

Deephaven Improvements – All Deephaven grade level classrooms are now air conditioned! Also, the trail between the LRT trail and Deephaven is easier and safer access to our school for bike riders.

Office Staff – You may reach our office at 952-401-6900. Please contact the health office at 952-401-6904.
Principal – Bryan McGinley

Assistant Principal – Josh Jansen
Head Office Assistant – Alexis Beckman
Building Office Assistant – Joyce Murphy
Health Para – Heidi Koehnen
Behavior Manager – Theresa Brown

Student Drop Off - Students may be dropped off at school between 7:30-8:00 a.m. Beat the traffic and the buses by dropping your child off before 7:40 a.m.

Student Pick Up – Students may be picked up at 2:40 p.m. and no later than 2:50 p.m. If you have a change to your after school pick up plan, please call the office by 2 p.m.

Parents picking up their child from school:

1. Pull all the way up to the stop sign at the end of our building.
2. Remain in your car. Your child will come to you.
3. Children need to enter the backseat on the driver's side.
4. Remind your child to watch for your car while waiting for you.

Pick up runs from 2:40-2:50.

Reminder – Parents are not allowed to walk into the bus area during arrival and dismissal times.

Ride the bus, avoid the pick-up/drop-off line.

Resident Families:

- Please have your child ride the bus.
- Bike or walk to school when conditions allow.

Open Enrolled Families:

- Please drop off and pick up your child at an existing bus stop. Call our Transportation Department at 952-401-5023 for more information

We can appreciate that this request will not work for every family. We simply hope you will consider having your child take the bus if possible. It would be of great help to the ongoing traffic challenges we face during drop-off and pick-up. Thank you!

Pass to Ride Other Busses - No daily bus passes will be issued this year. due to a record number of bus riders. Some of our buses are at full capacity. With that being said, we will review emergency situations on a case-by-case basis. If you have one arise, please reach out to the office.

Back to School Fatigue – Children often experience fatigue as they return to the school schedule. This can last through September and is typically more obvious with our younger students. Please keep this in mind if you see behavior changes at home and remember the importance of an early bedtime.

Custody Arrangements/Orders for Protection – If our staff need to be aware of any custody arrangements or orders for protection for your family, please submit documentation to the office staff. **Updated documentation must be submitted each year.** You can scan and email your documents to Alexis Beckman at alexis.beckman@minnetonkaschools.org.

Job Opportunities at Deephaven – Deephaven has 3-hour and 6-hour para positions available. Contact Josh Jansen at josh.jansen@minnetonkaschools.org for more information or to express interest in the openings.

Lockdown Drills and Fire Drills – Deephaven conducts 5 lockdown drills and 5 fire drills each year. Teachers discuss the expectations and reasons for the drills ahead of time in an age-appropriate way. Essentially, we communicate to students that we are making sure we are keeping everyone safe. The first set of drills will be held on Friday and the remaining drills will be unannounced throughout the school year.

Last call for Principal’s Challenge calendars! If you participated in the Principal’s Challenge this summer and have documentation to turn in, make sure it is given to your child’s teacher by **Friday**. More details to come in how we will celebrate our participants.

NWEA Testing Schedule

Math - September 12-16

Reading - September 18-22

More information, including specific testing times for your child, will be shared with you by your child’s teacher.

COVID Guidelines: As we enter our 2023-2024 school year, we are fielding questions from parents requesting guidance related to COVID. Consistent with information from the Minnesota Department of Health, our COVID guidelines remain the same as they were last year. All of our health and safety guidelines can be found on the [website](#). If someone tests positive for COVID, they will need to isolate for at least 5 days since they felt sick (day zero is their first day of symptoms) or tested positive (if asymptomatic). They are welcome to return on day 6 if they feel better and have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. It is strongly recommended that they mask upon their return from day 6 through day 10. We will have at home tests available in the Health Office; please reach out directly to the Health Office to get some. The expiration dates have been extended by the manufacturer, so they are good through the end of the year.

OLWEUS BULLYING PREVENTION

This week in our Olweus Classroom Meetings we will talk about our school rules about bullying. Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

We want to remind all families that Deephaven Elementary continues to be **Allergy Aware** which means ***no nuts of any kind*** are allowed at school (cafeteria, classroom, class parties, field trips etc.) Please remember to read all labels carefully before sending snack or lunch items to school. As always, we thank you for partnering with us to keep students safe!

Attendance reminder: It is the parent/ guardian’s responsibility to notify the Deephaven Attendance Office when a student is absent or tardy for any reason. Please report directly to the DHE Attendance Office **by 8:15 a.m.** You may also choose to contact your student’s classroom teacher, but to ensure the absence is excused, it must be communicated directly to the Attendance Office.

To report attendance, you can call the Attendance Office at **952-401-6904**, email the shared Health/ Attendance office email account at DHE.HealthOffice@minnetonkaschools.org, or enter attendance through the Minnetonka website.

PTA PULSE

Welcome to the first week of school! The PTA is so excited to be kicking off a new year. While we know you’re “drinking from the firehose” with all of the new information, we wanted to make sure you know how to connect to the PTA and about all of the exciting upcoming opportunities.

How to Connect

[Membership Toolkit](#) - This is our school's directory, and the place where you can sign up for volunteering opportunities. It's really important that you update your family's info in here so you can make sure you're included in all the fun activities and enrichment that happens at the school!

[Deephaven Elementary PTA Facebook page](#) - Another place to stay connected to the school community. Also a place you can go to with questions about how things work.

[District Website Deephaven PTA page](#) - We have a page on the school's site that includes PTA info. Check here for info you might need on the PTA.

[District Calendar](#) - Wondering what's happening on what day at Deephaven. The Deephaven district calendar is a great place to check.

DEVO Emails - 'Deephaven Elementary Volunteer Opportunity emails' come out Sunday evenings. And are a great way for you to see how to be involved at school.

Back to School Families Night - Sept. 11 at 5 p.m. on the School Playground. Meet new families & enjoy a free treat from the Big Chill Ice Cream Truck

PTA Meeting - Sept. 14 7:30-8:30 in the Media Center. Please join us for our first PTA meeting at 7:30 in the Media Center. Learn what's happening around the school, find ways to plug in to our parent community, and hear from PTA leadership and Principal Bryan McGinley. We hope to see you there!

Deephaven Moms Night Out - Sept 20 - Moms, Grandmas, and Caretakers of any kind please join us for a Deephaven Moms' Night Out at Maynards in Excelsior. This is a buy your own beverage/food event with no formal agenda. Stop by any time and encourage other Deephaven Moms to join. Contact Sarah Punch with questions sarah@sarahpunch.com.

Deephaven PTA Sponsor's - A big thank you to this year's PTA sponsors: Title - Jerome D'Alessandro at Fazendin Realtors. Platinum- Cherry Hill Landscaping, Oppidan, Central McGowan. Gold - Marks Group Wealth Management, Eric Utoft at Engel & Völkers.