This publication is produced at the Pillager School for the whole Pillager community. If you have local news, please contact the school at (218) 746-3557 for submission information.

**District Newsletter** November 2023 - January 2024

## **IT TAKES US ALL**

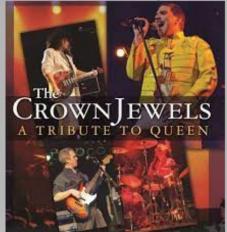


# = CTC

# Concert Series 2023/2024 @ Pillager Schools CTC Center

The Crown Jewels

A Tribute to Queen



Saturday, Nov. 18 Ticket Price \$25.00

A John Denver Christmas by Layne Yost



Totally Awesome . 80's Christmas Show

Sunday, Dec. 10 Ticket Price \$30.00

All shows starting 7:30 p.m.

Transit Authority
A Tribute to Chicago



Saturday, Feb. 17 Ticket Price \$25.00



Xpedition Tribute to Journey, Foreigner, Kansas, Styx



Friday, April 12 Ticket Price \$25.00

Saturday, Dec. 16 Ticket Price \$25.00

Free Fallin A Tribute to Tom Petty



Thursday, May 2 Ticket Price \$25.00

Check us out and purchase tickets at ctccenter.org. Make sure to like and follow our new Facebook page @ https://www.facebook.com/PillagerCTC



## **Pillager Schools Updated Enrollment Numbers**

Last year, Pillager School ended last school year with an enrollment number of 1,262 students. As of the first day of school this fall, our enrollment numbers were at 1,275, a gain of 13 students from the previous year. Our class sizes range from 86 student in the current senior class all the way up

to 115 students in the current 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We have an average class size of 98 students per grade in K-12. We have currently have closed three grades to open enrollment per our district policy.

## 2022 -2023 Budget Revision

At the regular September School Board meeting, the budget committee presented the first revision of the 2023-2024 budget. The first revision of the budget will show a positive budget of \$322,000. The original budget was anticipated to be \$50,000 to the good. The first revision reflected an improvement of \$272,000 to the overall budget. Keep in mind we will still have a second revision to the budget and may have other unexpected expenditures throughout the year. The improvement to the budget was caused due to higher enrollment than what was projected and also higher levy revenue. The district is finishing up the 2022-2023 audit and that will be shared in the spring newsletter,

## **School Board Sets Preliminary Levy Amount**

The School Board recently set the proposed preliminary levy amount at the September regular meeting. The board set the preliminary amount at the full allowable amount with the final levy being set in December. Keep in mind the levy can always be reduced in December but can never be increased. The practice of the Pillager School Board has been to set the full levy amount in the preliminary budget and then make changes as necessary to the final levy in December. The amount that the board set for this year was at 6.5% on the school levies portion on tax statements for next year. Please keep in mind that many factors impact your school taxes, such as assessed property value, resident market value, and net tax capacity growth in the district for example.

## **Athletic Construction Project Completed**

The construction project on the athletic complex was completed just in time and was definitely needed as this past month we had one of the largest crowds attend a homecoming football game with the Staples-Motley Cardinals coming to town. The new 700 capacity bleachers were full and the added bleachers on the guest side were as well. It was a great atmosphere as several fans in attendance were standing along the fences and enjoying the food trucks while the Huskies came away with a hard fought 30 - 20 victory.

## **MCA Data Released**

Recently the Minnesota Department of Education released data results from last spring MCA test. Across the state, test scores remain relatively low. Pillager School was slightly above the average compared to the state scores, with Math increasing by 2.3% this past year and scoring above the majority of schools in the region. We remained in the middle in our region in Reading and Science. Thus year, we implemented our "school within a school" concept in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade to provide more math and reading instruction to help improve proficiency rates. A full board report will be given at the November School Board meeting.

"PullTheSled"

Michael Malmberg Superintendent



## High School Principal, Jason Savage

Hope this newsletter finds you well as we celebrate the start of the 2023-2024 school year. It has been an incredible beginning, filled with enthusiasm, achievements, and a strong sense of Husky Pride.

#### **Homecoming Week Triumph**

Our Homecoming week was a resounding success, marked by thrilling events showcasing our students' and staff's spirit and unity. The pinnacle of the week was undoubtedly the football game against our rivals, Staples-Motley, where our Huskies emerged victorious with a final score of 30-20. It was an outstanding performance on the field, and the support from our students, parents, and community members in the stands was truly remarkable. The Cross Country and Volleyball Teams have also represented PHS well this fall.

### **Record-Breaking Homecoming Dance**

The Homecoming Dance was another highlight of the week and a night to remember. We are proud to announce that this year's Homecoming Dance had a record number of attendees, a testament to the enthusiasm and spirit of our student body. Seeing so many of our students coming together to end a fun week was great.

#### **Husky Pride Shines**

Throughout the first few weeks of the school year, Husky Pride has been on full display. From the spirited pep rallies to the decorated hallways, it's evident that our students take great pride in being part of the Pillager High School community. We couldn't be more proud of their dedication to academics, athletics, and the arts.

#### An Excellent Student Body

Lastly, I want to commend our student body for their exemplary behavior, commitment to their studies, and overall positive attitude. Your dedication to your education and extracurricular activities sets a high standard for our school, and it's clear that the Pillager High School community comprises talented and motivated individuals.

As we continue this school year, let's carry the momentum from our successful start and work together to achieve even greater accomplishments. I do not doubt that our Pillager High School community will continue to shine brightly in all we do.

Let's keep it going!



## ALC (Alternative Learning Center)

ALC through Freshwater Education District will be offered after school at the Pillager High School. This is for students who are behind credits and need to make them up in order to graduate.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays after school depending on student scheduling needs.

If you have any questions regarding ALC you may contact : Ann Hutchison at ahutchison@isd116.org

## **Snow Days as Possible E-Learning Days**

Pillager Public Schools has approved an E-Learning procedure for snow days. In addition to that procedure, the school calendar also includes 3 makeup days. The district administration will use a combination of these for weather related closures throughout the school year.

This year our K-4 students have their chromebooks at school. Chromebooks may be sent home if a snow day is expected. If the closure is unexpected, teachers will be in contact with families with instructions for the school closure.

For school closing information families will receive JMC message or you can check our District Website and/or location media stations.



## SALE! \$5 Off Through November 17

www.jostensyearbooks.com 1-877-767-5217

If you have photos you think would be appropriate for the yearbook, please send them to msoberg@isd116.org

# WORK WORLD EXPERIENCES at Pillager High School

Pillager High School offers a work experience program for high school students. This program supports students in high school completion and assists in their enthusiasm to join the work world.

Students participate in a paid position with academic and career related skills being instilled through training and supervision. Progress reviews are scheduled with mentors in the workforce.

Interested students or employers can contact Ann Hutchison at (218)746-2164 for further information.

Pillager Public Schools is honored to be recognized by the Brainerd Dispatch as the "#1 Best School" in the Brainerd Lakes Area, voted on by their



readers! We are thankful to all of you who made this possible.

We are proud of our great team of parents, staff and community members who continue to provide support and opportunities for our students! Remember... Once a Husky, always a Husky!

## **ISD116.0RG**







- Learn about cultures, customs and traditions from around the world
- Make new friends and create memories that will last forever
- Help make a positive impact locally in your community, as well as across the

To learn more contact David Olson (651) 238-5159 dolson@isd116.org northcentral.iseusa.org



## Middle School Principal, Wade Mortenson

What a great start to the 2023-2024 school year! I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation and HUSKY PRIDE for the remarkable start to the school year we've had here in the Middle School. Our students have shown incredible enthusiasm, dedication, and resilience from day one. Their positive attitude towards learning and their support for one another are truly inspiring. It's evident that they are eager to accomplish great things moving forward. I also want to extend my gratitude to our exceptional

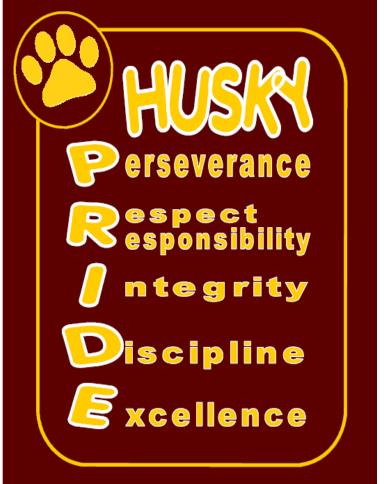
staff members. The commitment seen by ALL of our staff to provide a positive learning environment has been outstanding. The hard work, creativity, and unwavering support for our students have laid a strong foundation for their growth and success.

It has been a very busy start as well. Our Student Council organized a great homecoming week full of school spirit. The week was a huge success which included dress-up days, pep fests, the parade, volleyball matches, football games, cross-country meets, and of course...the dance! Each day we have many academic and social opportunities for our students to be involved in both during the school day and after school hours. It is great to see so many students involved in these activities. As we get further along in the school year, more and more opportunities will be available.

I can't wait to see what is in store for us as the school year continues. I am confident we will see a tremendous amount of success in many areas due to the work ethic seen by our students and staff. As always, if I can be of any assistance, please give me a call or send an email my way.

Thanks!

Wade Mortenson Middle School Principal



### Middle School Students of Quarter I

<u>Congratulations to these students:</u> Anna Poegel, Azli Pulak, Bentlee Walker, Devyn Brooks, Eli Pexsa, Emma Disterhaupt, Emma Pietz, Eveleth Berg, Harley Schwegel, Henry Martin, Jordan Pelgrine, Kaylee Shamp, Logan Lund, Reece Olsen, Sophia Scofield, Vinny Metz, Wyatt Rogers, Wyatt Smith, Zaeda Bridge

## **Before and After School**

Parents, please note that students should not be in the school building before 7:55 a.m. Please know that they will be asked to leave the school to either go outside or home.

The school is closed to all children after school unless they are in a supervised after-school activity or enrolled in "Fun Stop."

**GO HUSKIES** 



## The Husky Hangout

An "After School Targeted Services Academic Enrichment Program" through the Freshwater Education District is available to students In Grades 5-8.

The program is based on a minimum enrollment of 11 students.

**WHO:** THE HUSKY HANGOUT is available to any Pillager student in grades 5-8 who wishes to take advantage of after school academic support and enrichment activities during the school year.

WHAT: Each two-hour session consists of:

- One Hour of Homework Help and/or Academic Enrichment Activities. The lead teacher in collaboration with course teachers to help students complete homework assignments. If a student does not have assignments to complete they will receive supplemental math, reading, study skills instruction.
- 30-45 Minute-long Learning Activity Students will participate in a hands-on learning enrichment activity each week. Activity examples include: cooking, service-learning project, craft/art project, science experiments, community education classes, etc.
- 15-25 Minute-long Physical or Growth Mindset Activity

WHEN: Every Tuesday and Thursday: 3:15- 5:15 p.m. Starting early to mid October. Students may join at any time, however, sign-up forms are required.

WHERE: Pillager Middle School, TBD

**WHY:** Students can benefit from additional academic support while also developing improved social, study, and communication skills. **HOW:** Parents and teachers who are interested in referring a child to THE HUSKY HANGOUT should contact the Middle School Office.



Pillager Middle School is implementing a 5th and 6th grade school within a school

#### Highlights of the Program

- Ease the transition to middle school
- Provide additional time for math and english classes
- Embed interventions
- Support the social-emotional needs of our children
- Reduced number of teachers for each student

## Sample Schedules

#### 5th Grade Schedule

- 1. Core Class (Math)
- Core Class (English)
- Exploratory 5 / PE (Every other day)
- Core Class (Social Studies)
- Skinny (Math / ELA = 25 Minutes each)
- 6. Core Class (Science)
- 7. 4 Exploratory Courses
  - Health
    - · Intro to Singing
    - · Intro to Instruments
    - PE 5

## 6th Grade Schedule

- 1. Core Class (Math)
- 2. Core Class (English)
- Core Class (Science)
- 4. Skinny (Math / ELA = 25
- Minutes each)
  5. Band/Choir or
  Arts 6 / AVID 6
- Core Class (Social Studies)
- 7. Engineering / PE (Every other day)



## SALE! \$5 Off Through November 17

www.jostensyearbooks.com 1-877-767-5217

If you have photos you think would be appropriate for the yearbook, please send them to msoberg@isd116.org

# HUSKY PRIDE TIME for the MIDDLE SCHOOL

All Middle School students will have the opportunity to participate in a PRIDE TIME Period each day this school year. During PRIDE TIME, students will enjoy character education lessons related to a variety of topics. This is also a perfect time to complete missing work, relearn material, or retake a test.

A wide variety of enrichment options will also be available related to all content areas. For example, students can use PRIDE TIME to prepare for the annual Husky Spelling Bee, work on a Science Fair project, prepare for a Math Masters competition, study for the 8th grade National Geographic Geography Bee, perfect a work of art, or simply read their favorite book. Certainly, PRIDE TIME will be a tremendously beneficial time for all students.

## Elementary Principal, Josh Smith



I hope this newsletter finds you well and that your child has found the start to the school year to be positive! I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated teachers, staff, and parents for their continued support and collaboration. Together, we will continue to create a positive and nurturing environment for our students.

As we move further into the school year, I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates and events happening in the next couple of months.

We enjoyed having grandparents and significant adults join our students and visit them in their classrooms in October. The kids have fun sharing this time with the adults that visit.

As this is being sent, we are in the midst of Teacher-Parent Conferences. I am hopeful that the information shared during this time is meaningful. Communication is a key to success and it is important that each teacher, parent, and student understands the progress being made in school. Another conference is scheduled for January 23 and 24, 2024. Do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns at any time.

Kindergarten through second grade will be performing in the annual Christmas program on December 14th and 15th.

Kindergarten and first grade will perform on December 14th. Kindergarten performances will be at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. while First Grade will perform at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Second grade will perform on December 15th at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Christmas break is December 25th through January 2nd, with students returning to school on January 3rd.

We are committed to providing your child with the best possible educational experience at Pillager Elementary School. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Your feedback is valued.

Josh Smith Elementary Principal



#### First Grade Schoolastic Books

Mrs.Cousino's class received their first Scholastic Book for the year. The books were purchased with very generous funds from her friends. The 1st graders will get to keep a book each month!

## September Elementary Students of the Month

#### Congratulations to these students:

Kindergarten - Nora Fuller, Amelia Horn, Renly Sparks, Noah Fussy, Letty Fuller

1st Grade - Charlee Geditz, Emma Disterhaupt

2nd Grade - Eleanor Dixon, Jade Warnberg, Waverly Skoglund, Aria Bramer, Dominik Strong

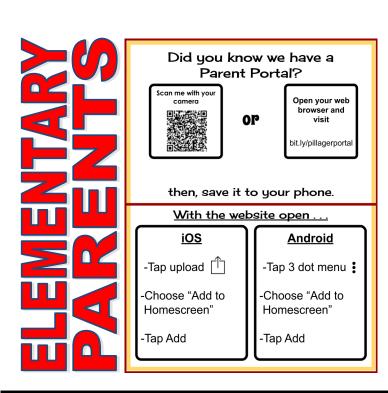
3rd Grade - Karlie Nguyen, Bernadette Roden, Hayven Finstad, Greta Karelis, Dawson Miller

4th Grade - Kenzie Leise, Ella Fuller, Kaydence Sullivan, Talon Kavanaugh, Jett Nelson, Lily Flickinger, Sam Robinson

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS LOOK LIKE THIS...



If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. Box Tops are still worth 10¢ each for your school. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to our school's earnings online. Go to BTFE.COM for more information.



## Title 1 — "It's for Everybody!"



Title I is a federal grant for schools that helps support students who need additional help. Our Title I funds are used to help reduce the number of reading groups, class sizes, etc.

Title teachers, as well as all teachers at Pillager are highly trained, licensed and working in their area of expertise.

We invite parents and community members to be involved with Title I. If you would like to help review and write grants or be involved in the planning of Title I or Title IIA, please contact our Local Educational Agency (LEA) Mr. Josh Smith or our Title I teacher, Mrs. Wendy Hall.

We encourage parents to be involved in their child's education here at Pillager Elementary School. All students in Pillager Elementary are able to receive services under the School Wide Title I Plan. We use data from our testing to determine strengths and needs of our students.

We want all parents to be aware of the many opportunities to be on school committees. This includes a Title I committee. The Title I committee will annually review the "Ten Elements" of school-wide planning as they work on the Title I plan.

The district-wide Parental Involvement Policy procedures have been developed jointly with parents of children participating in Title I programs. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of students participating in Title I, Part A on or before September 20 of the present school year.

If you have any questions concerning Title I, please feel free to see the LEA for Title I, Mr. Smith at (218)746-2110.

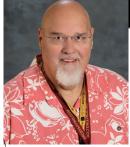


The Pillager PTO is back! We are looking for new members to help support our elementary students, teachers & staff. Keep an

eye out for updates on our Facebook page.



## Facility Services Manager, John Gordon



A lot is happening these next 3 months, not only are there the yearly performing arts concerts, plays, and events, but all that I talk about below. Check us out regularly on the CTC Center web site or follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/PillagerCTC.

CTC Concert Series this year at the CTC Center. The series runs October to May with various Tribute acts. Tickets are still available for the following shows at ctccenter.org. All shows start at 7:30 PM.

Saturday, November 18, 2023: The Crown Jewels - A Tribute to Queen Sunday, December 10, 2023: A John Denver Christmas by Layne Yost Saturday, December 16, 2023: Totally Awesome 80's Christmas Show Saturday, February 17, 2024: Transit Authority - A Tribute to Chicago Friday, April 12, 2024: Xpedition - Journey | Kansas | Foreigner | Styx Thursday, May 2, 2024: Free Fallin' - A Tribute to Tom Petty

Veterans Day Program this year is Friday, November 10th at 9:30 AM, LT. Col Steve Hall will be this year's speaker. All are welcome to attend as we honor and remember all who have served and are serving.

Legacy Chorale Concert and our Pillager Choir will be performing on November 10th at 7:00 PM in the CTC Center. The Legacy Choir is well known in this area for its exceptional performances. Make sure you check out the CTC Center web site for more info.

Acoustic Performance will be playing on January 6th, 7:30 PM at the CTC Center. Tickets are \$12.00. Who are they? A very talented group of musicians from Fargo ND. They play regularly all summer in the Brainerd area at resorts. The Acoustic Sharks will be playing their own music and your favorite cover tunes as well. The show will warm your heart on a cold Saturday night in winter. See the ad on the back page of the newsletter for more details.

Gordon Out!

# ONE ACT PLAY

**AUDITIONS:** November 21, 2023 (Ms. Colgrove's Room) **COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE:** January 23, 2024 @ 7:00pm **SUBSECTIONS:** January 27, 2024—Park Rapids High School



The Pillager Education Foundation is a group of volunteers who support our school through fundraising for classroom grants and student scholarships.

Education Foundation
Our mission statement is: "Working with our communities, we will support innovative approaches and enhance student excellence in academics, arts, athletics and activities.

For more information on how you can get involved or how to donate funds to the Pillager Ed Foundation, please see our website at www.pillageredfoundation.org

#### Greetings from the Health Office!

Wondering about school policy on illness? See the Health Resources page at https://www.isd116.org/departments/health-service. Remember that students need to stay home from school for 24 hours after fever, vomiting, or diarrhea has resolved. Notify the health office if your student tests positive for COVID-19. Students are to stay home for 5 days after developing COVID. We have free test kits available through January 1, 2024.

School Sealant Program: More information to come on this annual dental program which will be available for K-8 students on February 8th, 2024.

Any changes in your student's medical or allergy information? Please keep us updated!

We've just wrapped up our hearing and vision screening event for 1st, 3rd, & 5th grade students. We're happy to hold events at school that help us keep our Huskies healthy and learning.

We hope that your families have a wonderful winter and holiday season as it is fast approaching!

Jamie Shypkowski, RN, RD, LSN, PHN Pillager School Nurse (218)746-2114



See the **COVID-19** link at <u>isd116.org</u> for resources.

According to Food Allergy Research & Education, 1 in 13 children have a food allergy. The most common food allergies in children are allergies to peanuts, milk, shellfish, and tree nuts.

If your child has a food allergy and you have not notified the health office, please call our staff at (218)746-2114.



Clothes that are not claimed will be washed every two weeks and then donated on about the 1st and 15th of each month.

The Elementary lost and found is located by the elementary gym.

Students should check this every day!

Please contact Brenda at 746-2111 if you would like her to look for your child's belongings.



A Driver's Ed course for students, age 14+, will be offered through the school. More details will be sent home with students when they are finalized.

kjanicke@isd116.org (218) 746-2071

#### **Elementary Assessments**

Academic progress toward grade-level standards in Kindergarten through 4th grade is monitored in a number of ways. An assessment tool that will be used is Star360. STAR assessments are computer-adaptive tests. Computer-adaptive tests continually adjust the difficulty of each child's test by choosing each test question based on the child's previous response. On average, students will complete the STAR tests in approximately 20-30 minutes.

Students will also be assessed throughout the school year using Jan Richardson's "Next Steps in Guided Reading" framework. These assessments will be given by classroom teachers and our Title I staff.

The results of these assessments, Star360 and guided reading, will be used to guide instruction and interventions.

#### Catalyst

Catalyst is a systematic approach of using non-verbal skills to manage students with influence rather than power. Seven patterns of non-verbal skills have been identified in teachers who have excellent classroom management. Teachers who systematically utilize the full range of non-verbal management skills are able to reinforce consistent and fair parameters while preserving their relationships with each student, regardless of unique learning styles or cultural backgrounds.



## Winter Coach Line-up

#### Jim Bentson **Head Boys Basketball Coach**

2023-2024 is my 16th year as the Boys Head Basketball Coach. From 1999-2008, I had a record of 158-83. I was deployed on two separate occasions. Jerry Fornshell & Scott Mudgett coached in my absence during the three different seasons. Overall (those seasons

included as I was on federal military leave), I am currently 227-141.

This year's staff includes Head Coach Jim Bentson, JV Coach Jacob Russell, and C Squad Coach Anthony Kelley.

We have a seasoned returning team in starters (Sr) Paker Schaefer, (Sr) Eli Miller, (Jr) Christian Hooge, (Jr) Kaden Imdieke, & (Jr) Justin Anderson. First off the bench and occasionally starting was (So.) Gabe Parrish. Senior's Drew



Berent, Nathan Duy, Ezra Hopman, Jakob Knosalla, Brayton Kriegl and a multitude of sophomores will try and compete for playing time on the varsity. With a 15-13 record last year and Pillager's first ever play-off win in the school's history in Class AA, we look to compete with Wadena and Henning for the conference championship as well.

#### **Grant Stewart Head Girls Basketball Coach**

This is Coach Stewart's second year leading the Husky girls basketball program. Grant is a native of Arizona, his family moved to Minnesota in 2005. He has three daughters. His family has had a seasonal home here for the last 11 years and he and his wife recently relocated full time to the Brainerd Lakes area. Grant has been coaching basketball for the past 17 years. He has coached at all levels youth through varsity basketball and coached high school

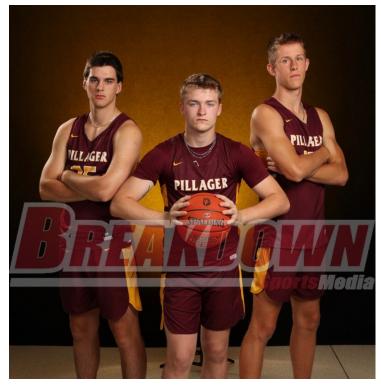
at the 2A, 3A, and 4A levels.

Coach Stewart said, "My wife and I have always loved the Brainerd Lakes area and we are excited to be living up here full-time. I am very excited to be a new member of the Husky family. I have a love and passion for the game of basketball and can't wait to get started as the new girls head coach. I have often told my



teams 'No Grit, No Glory' and I hope to impart a level of passion and perseverance in everything we do on and off the court."

Play with Passion and Go Huskies!"



## **Boys Basketball 2023-24**

Key returners for the Husky boys basketball team are (from L to R) (Sr) Parker Schaefer, (Sr) Eli Miller, and (Jr) Christian Hooge. Photo courtesy of Breakdown Sports Media.



## 1000 Career **Volleyball Set Assists**

Congrats to Bridget Danielson who recorded her 1000 career set assist during the 2023 volleyball season! It was guite the fall for her, having also been named Homecoming Queen and achieving this career milestone. Congrats Bridget and to her Husky teammates!!!



## 2023-24 Leadership Council

Front row; Kaden Imdieke, Drew Berent, Grace Mudgett, Jada Loucks, Bridget Danielson, Briana Blais. Back row: TJ Swanberg, Justin Anderson, Christian Hooge, Danny Heldman, Breden Brichacek. Not pictured: Tyson Decker

# HUSKY of the month



Congratulations to our Pillager Booster Club Husky of the month winners for September: Bridget Danielson (volleyball) and Danny Heldman (football). Bridget Danielson is the epitome of a team leader. She works harder than everybody and praises her teammates for their success while still holding them accountable to be an asset to the team. She was a senior setter, homecoming queen, and new addition to the 1,000 assist club. Danny Heldman exemplifies what it means to be a Husky by demonstrating a tremendous work ethic, a positive attitude, and he is a great mentor to the younger students. Congratulations to both!!!

## Pillager Winter Activities

2023-2024

Registration

Mandatory Winter Sports Registration Night November 13, 6:00-7:30

- JH Boys Basketball (grade 7-8) November 6
- Varsity Girls Basketball (grade 9-12) November 13
  - Varsity Boys Basketball (grade 9-12) November 20

JH Girls Basketball (grade 7-8) - December 4

Dance (Little Falls) (grade 7-12) - October 23

Gymnastics (Little Falls) (grade 7-12) - November 13

Wrestling (Little Falls) (grade 7-12) - November 20

Athletes need to have a physical on file with the school, registration completed and fees paid.



Click here to register online https://pillager.revtrak.net/



Check out the Pillager Huskies Booster Club on Facebook and their website! pillagerbooster-club.com

## **#HUSKYPRIDE**



## **Husky Gear**

If you are looking for School Spirit clothing, check in the High School office. Online sales will be made throughout the year as well. Please visit the Booster Club Facebook page to order. www.pillagerboosterclub.com

# **Pillager Youth Sports**



## Winter 2023-2024

Pillager Youth Sports is part of the Athletic department. As long as there is a varsity program offered at Pillager School, a youth sports program may be offered as well. Registration fees will be a part of the same family max as the high school (\$350 per family per



#### Girls Basketball - \$50.00 Fee

#### 3rd - 4th grade Girls

- Mondays Elem Gym 5:45 7:00 pm
- Thursdays Elem Gym 6:30 7:30 pm
- · Saturday moming practice/games (some travel) 8:30-10:00 am in the HS gym
- Season: December 4- February 22

#### 5th-6th grade Girls

- Mondays HS Gym 6:00 7:30 pm
- Tuesdays—MS Gym 6:30 8:00 pm
- · Saturday moming practice/games (some travel) 10:00-11:30 am-HS Gym
- Season: December 4 February 20
- · Some practices may be at Baptist Church

#### Boys Basketball - \$50.00 Fee

#### 3rd - 4th grade Boys

- Mondays MS Gym 6:30 7:45 pm
- Thursdays –Elem Gym 5:30-6:30 pm
- · Saturday morning practice/games (some travel) 8:30-10:00 am in the MS gym
- Season: December 4- February 22

### 5th-6th grade Boys

- Tuesdays Elem Gym 6:00 7:30 pm
- Thursdays—MS Gym 6:30 8:00 pm
- Saturday moming practice/games (some travel) 10:00-11:30 am - MS Gym
- Season: December 5 February 22.
- Some practices may be at Baptist Church

## \*\*Schedule is Subject to Change\*\*

Please use the school calendar on our webpage to get the most updated version. Checking it weekly is advised.

## E REGISTRAT

at www.isd116.org-choose the tab on the top "Community Ed"

Youth Sports Registration 2023-2024

\$50 registration

## PORTS W

**Gymnastics** 

Grades 7-12

Fees:

Register through Athletics (MSHSL)

Starts November 14

**Transportation:** 

**Contact Information** 

**Dance Team** 

Grades 7-12

Register through Athletics (MSHSL)

Starts October 24

Nordic Skiing Grade 6 register through LF

Com.Ed

Grades 7-12 — Register

through Athletics (MSHSL) - Nov. 14 Wrestling Grade 6 register through LF

Com.Ed

Grades 7-8Register through Athletics (MSHSL) - November 21 MRR Diving Grades 6-12

MRR Lap Swim --Both of these programs

are Club Swimming. --Register through LF

Community Education

Com.Ed fees will be based on Little Falls registration fees (plus transportation fee).

MSHSL Co-op and 7/8 wrestling will be our regular activity fees (plus transportation fee).

Will provide transportation to and from Little Falls for both MSHSL sports and these Com. Ed sports for after school practices!

Parents will be responsible for transportation home from games/contests. MSHSL Co-op activities & 7/8 wrestling contact Matt Moen (218)746-2115.

For all Com. Ed activities contact Matthew Moen (218)746-2115.











## Activities Director, Matthew Moen

As the winter season approaches, the Pillager Huskies boys and girls basketball teams are gearing up for an exciting and competitive run on the court. The co-op sports programs with Brainerd and Little Falls, (Boys Swimming, Hockey, Dance, and Gymnastics) which has brought together talented athletes from all schools, promises a winter season filled with thrilling moments, teamwork, and dedication.

The boys' basketball team is poised to make a strong statement this season. With a mix of experienced upperclassmen and promising underclassmen, they are ready to hit the court with intensity. Coach

Bentson, known for his strategic approach and passion for the game, is optimistic about their chances in the upcoming season. The players have been putting in the work during the off-season, and their chemistry is stronger than ever.

On the girls' side, the Huskies are ready to demonstrate their prowess on the hardwood. This young team is ready to show their commitment to skill development and their teamwork make them a formidable force. Coach Stewart's leadership and emphasis on fundamentals bode well for their prospects this season.

The Pillager Huskies co-op program unites the community, offering thrilling games, and competitions that bring families and fans together to support their local teams. The energy and enthusiasm surrounding the boys' and girls' basketball teams are sure to light up the winter season, providing memorable moments for everyone involved. Be sure to mark your calendars and come out to show your support for the Pillager Huskies as they strive for success on the court this winter. It's a season that promises to be a slam dunk!

Matthew Moen
Pillager Activities Director



## UNIFIED FLAG FOOTBALL



The 2023 Unified Flag Football game was one that was unforgettable and special to the athletes who had the opportunity to participate. The games were filled with smiles, laughter, cheers, touchdowns, and excitement. It was so fun to watch the players score touchdowns and play together as a team. This team is unlike any other—so excited for one another when a touchdown is scored or a pass is caught, and the cheering is just incredible. Not only were the games fun but so were the stations. All the athletes tried their absolute best and had a great time. The whole day was a success and very exciting.

## **Community Events and Activities**



You are invited to join us for our:

## Christmas Boutique

Hosted by Mrs. Bouc's & Mrs. Sparks Special Education Class

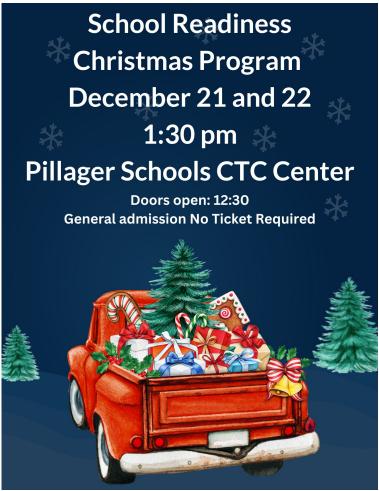
Tuesday-Friday December 12th - 15th 8:40am-2:40pm



A variety of student-made items will be available for purchase. Great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers for all ages. Fun teacher gifts as well.

Students can purchase (cash only) during the designated time, after the teacher excuses them to do so.

Quantities are limited and will not be made to order.





## **Choir Concert**

December 11 7/8 at 6:30pm

7/8 at 6:30pm High School at 8:00pm

## Band Concert

December 19 6:30pm

## Community Groups — Call for info

4-H		587-8280					
Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts	Mark Huber	839-1513					
Girl Scouts	Monica Husen	828-3515					
Lions Club	John Driscoll	(651)216-2400					
Moms in Prayer	Rhonda Dosser	746-4142					
American Legion	Tom Rhett	746-3945					
Fair Board / Community Cen	air Board / Community Center Jamie Hauge						
Pillager Family Center	Betty Doss	746-2185					
Ministerial Association	Dan Johnson	746-4369					
Pillager History	Sue Van Hal	821-2276					
Lakeshore Conservation Clu	akeshore Conservation Club						
Civil Air Patrol	Brainerd Airport	534-5418					
Pheasants Forever	Doug Johnson	(507)841-0571					
Local snowmobile clubs brainerdlakesareasnowmobiletrails.com							
If you would like yo	our club or organizat	ion listed here,					

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

If you want to donate money to provide new winter wear for kids, contact Jamie from the fair board (218) 839-5329. This effort is partnering with the Elementary School and the Pillager Family Center. If you know of a student who needs winter wear (coat, boots, snow pants, hats, mittens), please contact Jamie or any school office.



In November and
December, the
Pillager Area Lions
Club partners with the
Pillager Family Center
to help families with
meat and groceries for



their Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

The Pillager Family Center could really use some "Thanksgiving" items for the food shelf such as stuffing, potatoes, corn, gravy, ingredients for green bean casserole (green beans, cream of mushroom soup, French fried onions). The same will be true for Christmas dinner groceries. If you can help, please drop off your donations at the Family Center located in the City Hall building. (305 Fir Avenue West, Pillager)

Please consider giving generously to help families in our community. The Pillager Family Center is a 501(c) 3 organization and your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The federal tax identification number is 41-1811057. You may mail your financial donation to the Pillager Family Center, 305 Fir Avenue W, Pillager, MN 56473. Thank you for your support!





Now accepted in the District office for registration fees and lunch accounts.





Online registration and credit card payments are also

available for all athletics, youth sports, community education classes, and lunch payments.



Make a Difference In Your Community

#### Become a Substitute

in your child's school or classroom

Be involved in your child's education and help out in your local schools

Turn your volunteer hours into extra income

Maintain a flexible schedule - work when you want Get paid weekly and take advantage of bonus pay opportunities

Take part in our Gold Star Rewards Program

#### MN Substitute Requirements

If no existing teaching license, Teachers On Call can help you obtain a Short Call License with a Bachelor's degree.

#### MN Paraprofessional Requirements

HS diploma only (some districts also require 60+ college credits).

Contact: Recruiting | 800-713-4439 TOCRecruiting@teachersoncall.com Or Apply Online Today at www.teachersoncall.com

REC.MN.2.17

# PANMAG EDUCATION STAFFING

## **Now hiring Custodians & Educational Assistants**

Custodian day shift and evening shifts available. Starting pay \$14.00 per hour. More for experience.

Educational Assistants for the 2022-23 school year! Starting wages \$14.00 to \$20+ per hour, based on previous experience and education.

Please contact Penmac Staffing in Brainerd at (218) 824-9675 or www.penmac.com Must pass an extensive background check.

Educational Assistant candidates with an AA Degree or have completed paraprofessional testing are preferred.

You can see complete information on all employment options on the school website at www.isd116.org/employment.

## Early Childhood

# 



The Pillager Family Center is on Facebook! Look for them and become a fan! Keep updated on upcoming events, learn new ideas, read book suggestions and more!



Empowering and strengthening families to build a strong Pillager community.

## www.pillagerfamilycenter.org

Michele Spar Family Support Coordinator 218-746-4009 Betty Doss, Executive Director 218-746-2185

Food Shelf: Thursday 11 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 WIC: Call 218-547-1430 for appointment

Child and Teen Checkup Clinics:

Call 746-4009 for appointment

Cass County financial workers:

Thursday through v-link

call 218-547-1340 for appointment

Cass County Veteran's Services

3rd Thursday of the month

10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

 Other services: phone, computer use, fax and copy machine available to the public for a small charge.



# Early Childhood Options



## **School Readiness**

This program offers a variety of experiences and activities that prepare preschoolers for success in Kindergarten. To be enrolled, children must be four years of age by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Pillager School offers two options of School Readiness classes:

- Monday, Wednesday, some Fridays (8:10-2:50)
- Tuesday, Thursday, some Fridays (8:10-2:50 p.m.) If you have questions, please call Tracy at (218)746-3075.

## **Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)**

Children ages birth to seven who exhibit developmental delays (motor, auditory, vision, cognition, social-emotional, or speech/language) may qualify for services to meet their specific needs. Children receive services in their home, daycare, or in Pillager's Early Childhood or Kindergarten classrooms.

## **Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)**

This program provides support and resources to all families with children from birth until their enrollment in Kindergarten. The ECFE program believes parents are a child's first and most important teachers. Our program provides an opportunity for parents and children to play and learn together in a supportive environment facilitated by licensed child and parent educators.

## Fall 2023 Family Classes (Birth-Kindergarten) All classes held at the First Baptist Church

#### Mondays (20 weeks)

5:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Pizza/Playtime Up to age 5 years old

#### Thursday (24 weeks)

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Preschool Class Ages 3 to 5 years old (no siblings)

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Family Class Birth to 5 years old

#### Friday (24 weeks)

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Family Class Birth to 5 years old

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Family Class Birth to 5 years old

Call Brenda at (218)414-0441 to register or for more information.

## Pillager Area Family Center serves all members of our community

#### **Home Visiting Program**



The Family Center Home Visiting Program offers weekly home visits to new parents to gain information about child development, physical and social/emotional, parenting ideas, basic care and communication. The Home Visitor and parents work through the Growing Great Kids curriculum. This program is Healthy Families America (HFA) accredited. For more information, please call Amy at (218)587-4292.



Funding for this program is from the MN Department of Health, United Way, Cass County and the Cass County Children's Initiative. "Hand in hand for early success" ... Working together to build a secure foundation for newborn babies and their first time parents.

## Pillager Little Huskies Child Care Center



Location: Pillager School Early Childhood Center Hours: 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Ages: 16 months (14 months with a variance) to start of Kindergarten

State licensed and Four Star Parent Aware Rated

Contact Ashley O. at (218) 746-2148 or aoehrlein@isd116.org for more information or to enroll your child. Children must be enrolled in the program and pre-registration and pre-payment is needed in order for your child to attend.

## Fun Stop: School-Age Care Program



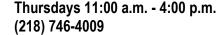
Location: Pillager School Ages: Kindergarten through 4th Grade

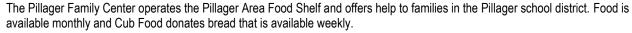
The Fun Stop program provides quality, safe, fun school-aged childcare for children in grades K-4. Games, puzzles, crafts, sports, and homework help are all a part of the Fun Stop choices.

▶ ▶ Due to the high number of participates, please call (218)746-2140 to make sure space is available.

This is an hourly fee plus additional charge for special events. Fun Stop is available from 6:30-8:05 a.m. and 3:00-5:30 p.m. on school days and 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on non-school days and during the summer.

#### Pillager Area Food Shelf 305 Fir Avenue W



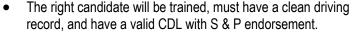


Thank you to everyone who has donated food and/or money to the Pillager Food Shelf. Your donations are greatly appreciated and continue to help families in our community. Monetary donations are preferred and are used to purchase food from the Second Harvest Food Bank. The Food Bank offers food to be purchased by food shelves at a lower cost and in bulk amounts, helping to stretch every dollar donated.

## **NOW HIRING** SCHOOL **BUS DRIVERS**

SCHOOL





- Competitive pay and HIRING BONUS!
- Full-time daily route, substitute, and extra-curricular positions available.
- Sports and activity drivers needed!
- Part time, full time, split route options all available.

Call Fornshell Bus Service for information: (218)746-3770

## Pillager School YouTube Channel

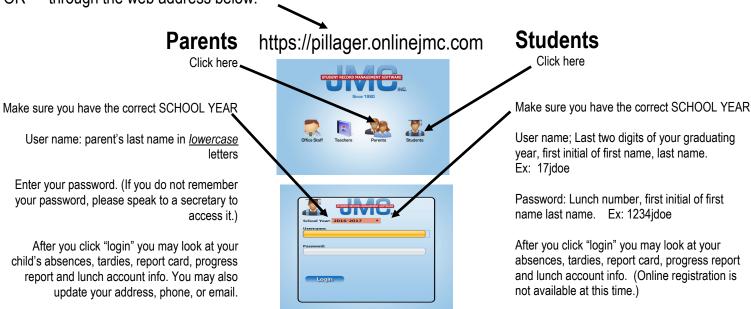


Please visit: https://www.youtube.com/c/ PillagerSchoolDistrict and click on the **SUBSCRIBE** button.



## **ACCESS TO STUDENT INFORMATION**

Please stay connected to your student's progress and lunch account information by accessing this information online. You can get to this information from the school website through the link on the left side of the home page OR — through the web address below.

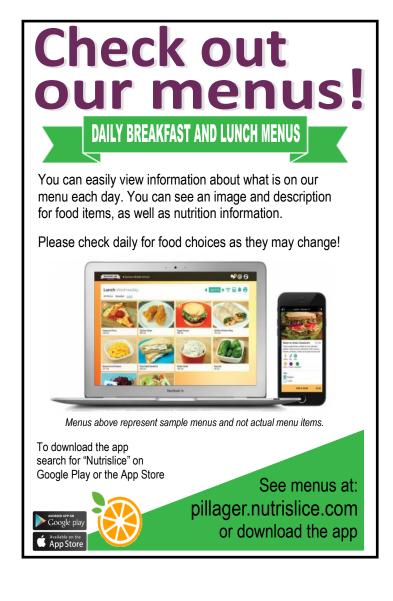


## JMC Alert System

Pillager School uses a recorded alert system to notify families of special school events, school closings, or emergencies. The numbers and email addresses are from the contact information that you have provided to the District Office.

If you are not getting these messages, or would like other phone numbers or email addresses used, please call the District Office to update your file.





## 2023 - 2024 PILLAGER SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

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Our transportation services are handled by Fornshell Bus Service.

fornshellbus@isd116.org (218) 746-3770

Online info: School Website
Use "services" tab on top of home page

## Transportation Information

Parents, please call the bus garage by 7:00 a.m. if your child/children will not be riding the bus for the day. This will help the buses stay on schedule!

**Special note:** Students are allowed only ONE designated bus stop in the morning and ONE designated bus stop in the afternoon. These stops must be registered through Fornshell Bus and Pillager School.

Transportation information forms are due in July.

No bussing is guaranteed without a completed bus form. Please send forms to Fornshell Bus Service or the Pillager School as soon as possible.

#### Bus Safety on the roads:

- Parents and district residents need to understand state laws in regards to school buses.
- When school is in session, buses will be stopping on all forms of roads: state highways, county roads, city streets and township roads. When buses stop, it means that a child is being picked up or dropped off. Red flashing lights mean that you must stop. It is illegal to pass a bus on either side while meeting or following the bus when the red lights are flashing.

#### Bus Safety at school:

We also ask that you follow the bus safety in the area around the school building.

• The one way streets and driving restrictions have been developed for the safety of kids. The parking lot on the south side of the school is a one way parking lot. Please enter from the east end only and exit from the west end only. This helps the flow of traffic off of East Second St. as it is one way. Each student in kindergarten through grade ten receives bus safety training every year. All students take a written and practice test.

As adult drivers, please be good examples. Thank you for your help in making school a safer place for kids.

## **Emergency School Closings**

Emergency school closings, late starts, postponement or cancellation of events can be the result of severe weather conditions or mechanical failure of the school facilities. Please listen to the stations listed here for any time change in the school day. This is an emergency situation and we cannot afford to have the school telephone lines tied up.

If severe weather conditions develop overnight or are eminent early in the morning, the announcement to close school will be made sufficiently early in the morning so students need not prepare to meet the bus. If weather conditions gradually worsen during the school day the announcement to close school will be made approximately one hour before students are dismissed and transported. Under these conditions we would urge parents cooperation to insure that someone is there when their children arrive home. For parents who have teenagers who drive to school, we would encourage parents to ask these young drivers to leave school and proceed directly home, rather than risk more hazardous driving conditions by lingering around town.

If a severe blizzard sets in during the day and you are concerned for your children, you may come and get them from the principal's office. If conditions are too hazardous for bus operation, students will remain in school until weather conditions improve. We also want to remind parents that the possibility exists that students may be stranded in a school bus or car for a period of time and students should be dressed properly for severe winter weather to insure that they do not suffer from exposure.

In the event it is announced that school will be late, the "late start" will ALWAYS be a two-hour late start" and school will start at 10:30 a.m.. Whenever school is delayed with a "late start", there will not be a breakfast program.

When school is closed because of severe weather, all school events and activities, including Early Childhood and Community Education programs will also be postponed as well as all practice for these events. The one exception to this is varsity athletic practice which may be held. Rural varsity athletes are reminded, however, that they must have a "snow home" if they remain for practice under these conditions.

In the event of a school closing or cancellation, a phone and email message will go to all primary contact phone numbers and emails for all students through our JMC Alert System.

92.1 FM	WYRQ	Little Falls					
94.1 FM	KFML	Little Falls					
103.5 FM	KOOL	Brainerd					
102.7 FM	MCBI	Pequot Lakes					
104.3 FM	MCBI	Pequot Lakes					
106.7 FM	WJJY	Brainerd					
107.5 FM	KLIZ	Brainerd					
830 AM	WCCO	Twin Cities					
960 AM	KLTF	Little Falls					
1340 AM	KVBR	Brainerd					
1380 AM	KLIZ	Brainerd					
TV 7/12	WCCO						
TV 9/29	FOX						
TV 11/14	KARE						
TV 5/16/42	KSAX						
www.isd116.org							
www.KARE11.com/closings							
www.WCCO.d	com/cancel	lations					

School Contact Information										
District Office	Early Childhood	Elementary School	Middle School	High School						
(218) 746-3772 office (218) 746-4236 fax awassen@isd116.org	(218) 746-2188 fax	(218) 746-2134 fax	(218) 746-2153 fax	(218) 746-2113 office (218) 746-3406 fax highschool@isd116.org						

## School Leadership

## School Board













1. Becky Bennett 12328 Upper Sylvan Rd. SW Pillager, MN 56473 (218) 851-7527 becky.bennett@isd116.org 2. Brian Grimsley 12423 43rd Ave SW Pillager, MN 56473 (218) 746-4207 brian.grimsley@isd116.org 3. Sara Nagel 11059 Richmond Rd SW Pillager, MN 56473 (218) 746-4478 sara.nagel@isd116.org 4. Kassandra Nelson 8371 340th St. Cushing, MN 56443 (218) 851-9900 kassandra.nelson@isd116.org 5. Randy Posner 7358 Colony Rd. Cushing, MN 56443 (218) 820-4165 randy.posner@isd116.org 6. Sarah Smith 38267 Riverview Road Pillager Mn 56473 218-537-0294 sarah.smith@isd116.org

## **Administrative Team**

Superintendent Mike Malmberg (218)746-2100 mmalmberg@isd116.org Elementary Principal Josh Smith (218)746-2110 jsmith@isd116.org MS (5-8) Principal Wade Mortenson (218)746-2096 wmortenson@isd116.org HS (9-12) Principal Jason Savage (218)746-2117 jsavage@isd116.org Director of Curriculum Ryan Krominga (218)746-2103 rkrominga@isd116.org Activities Director and K-12 Dean Matt Moen (218)746-2115 mmoen@isd116.org

# CTC Center Presents A Night of Acoustic Music with....

# Rick Adams



## Michael Pink



## Brady Robertson





January 6th 7:30 p.m. (Doors Open 6:30 p.m.)
Tickets on Sale November 7th @ 10:00 a.m.
Ticket Price: \$12.00 @ ctccenter.org
Follow us on Facebook

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## **POSTAL CUSTOMER**

