

NEW NAME, SAME MISSION:

Teaching and Learning Becomes Effective Instruction

We are committed to providing the highest quality education for all of our students! As we strive to always be Ever Brighter, we know that change is good and are excited to announce that the Teaching and Learning department has been renamed as Effective Instruction. This change reflects our dedication to aligning with our core values of providing effective and equitable learning for all students.

We are also excited to welcome some new team members to the district beginning on July 1 that will guide this work.



Dr. Tamika Fuller will join our district as the Director of Effective Instruction. She is the founder and CEO of Education Reform Enterprises (ERE) and has dedicated her career to instructional leadership across the nation. It was through her leadership with ERE that Dr. Fuller became connected with the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District. "I believe in providing high support and high expectations for our educators," said Dr. Fuller. "This will lead to our success."

She will be joined by two new Effective Instruction Coordinators, Erin Miller and Laura Guerrero.

Erin Miller has taught science for 16 years and says she cares deeply about the teaching profession and its future. "I love working with teachers, and I look forward to providing them with great support, encouragement, and resources," said Miller. "Teachers are lifelong learners and they inspire me every day!"



Laura Guerrero is excited to support instruction through the lenses of equity, rigor, global competence, and build relationships with students and staff.

The district will also be welcoming a new Family and Student Support Coordinator, **Anna Randt** who will work closely with students

and their families throughout the year. "I love that SANB is a small district where it feels like a family no matter what building you are in," said Randt. "I am so excited to help support families and students."



Jaimee Stanley, serving now as the Effective Instruction Coordinator for Early Childhood and Wilshire Park Elementary, will also be back to carry on her great efforts along with Viviana Chavez-Garcia, District Multilingual Coordinator. These positions will support the core goals of giving students the opportunity to learn and succeed every day.

The district is also excited to be reviewing and raising the academic rigor and standards in our classrooms with the goal of challenging our students more in their learning, which will increase our students' capacity to harness vital academic skills. High academic expectations and support for social emotional learning will contribute to greater student success. By increasing the academic expectations of our students, we will see a higher capacity to thrive inside and outside of the classroom.

Renewal of the 2014 operating levy passes board vote

At their regular meeting on June 4, the St. Anthony - New Brighton School Board voted to renew the 2014 operating levy for an additional ten years. This levy provides funding for regular school operations. Taxpayers will not see a tax impact because of this renewal.

School boards across Minnesota are able to renew an existing levy one time without needing to go to the taxpayers for approval, saving on costs to run a campaign and hold an election.

The renewed levy will go into effect July 2024.

St. Anthony  New Brighton
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 282

3303 33rd Ave NE, St. Anthony, MN 55418
isd282.org
612-706-1000

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Lu Chaput: Exemplifying Spirit and Leadership at SAVHS

We are excited to shine the spotlight on Lu Chaput. Lu is involved in SAVHS's band program, which has allowed him to hone his skills on multiple pieces and solos. Lu has many hobbies – from the challenge of playing poker (watch out Las Vegas!) to the fun of playing volleyball on the new boys volleyball team, and the peace found in reading and watching movies, Lu loves to experience it all. His involvement in founding the boys' volleyball club at SAVHS has shown his commitment to creating inclusive spaces.

Lu Chaput represents the best of Huskie pride – dedicated, spirited, and genuinely connected to his school community. We are proud to have students like Lu as part of our district. SAVHS is not just a place of learning, but a launching pad for leaders of tomorrow.



Shining the Spotlight on Our Staff

In her 16th year with St. Anthony - New Brighton Schools, Jenny Kuykendall has shifted from a dedicated special education teacher to an impactful coordinator, creating systems that support both students and staff. Known for her commitment to effective instruction and reducing opportunity gaps, Jenny's work is essential to the district's journey towards becoming Ever Brighter. Read her story and other staff highlights on our website.



Adriana and Dhega's Journey: Middle School Memories and High School Hopes

Our middle schoolers are moving on up to high school next year, which means new environments, relationships, teachers, classes, athletics, activities and countless other unknowns. It can be a scary time, even when our conjoined middle and high school and small, caring community can make for a smoother transition.

There's so much to be excited about in the future, and a lot we can honor in our past. We sat down with 8th grade students Adriana Jefferson and Dhega Khongtsotsang as they reflected on their time at St. Anthony Middle School, while also looking towards the future.



Nurturing BRILLIANCE

 The Official Newsletter of ISD282

The Class of 2024 celebrated graduating from St. Anthony Village High School on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. Please join us in celebrating their next step in life! Go Huskies!

Summer 2024

Read their stories on our website



Kathleen Morrison Wins National Unity Award

Kathleen Morrison, SAVHS senior, has been named a recipient of the 10th annual Unity Awards, as given by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center (NBPC). The Unity Awards recognize individuals and groups that empower others to take action against bullying, advocate for those who need support, or share acts of kindness that cause a ripple effect in their communities. Kathleen is one of six recipients of this national award.

"She has the type of personality that people gravitate toward and knows that it's important to welcome people and invite them in to participate," Kathleen's mother Rhonda commented. "Getting in there and trying is her whole spirit. She shows everybody how to get it done. Kathleen doesn't see her limits; in her mind there are none."

Kathleen is involved in many activities at St. Anthony Village High School and in the community at large. Among her many endeavors, she is a part of Student Council, the Student Board of Directors for Unified Schools (and is helping create a Unified Club at St. Anthony), the National Honor Society, Special Olympics, and has worked with the MN State Fair Kemps Little Farm Hands as a volunteer for over five years, where she assists in running the exhibit.

Luke Tressel, Physical Education teacher at St. Anthony, describes Kathleen as "the definition of unity. Just walk down the hallways of St. Anthony and you will see a senior leader bringing together



everyone that she comes in contact with. Kathleen constantly inspires our students and teachers to live their best life. As an individual with Down Syndrome, she encourages us to overcome obstacles and to see our challenges as opportunities to excel, even when it's difficult. As a senior, Kathleen is leaving a lasting mark on our school, and I fully believe that she will continue to unify any and every community she is a part of in the future."

We are so proud of you, Kathleen! Congratulations!

Students shares brilliant ideas and suggestions with the Superintendent

We're in our second year of the Superintendent Council and our group of 11 students are closing out the year reflecting on their time together. The purpose of the Superintendent Council is to keep an open line of communication between students and the Superintendent. At their final meeting in May, new students joined the outgoing students to pass on their knowledge and experience. We're excited to have this partnership and opportunity to connect with students and hear from them directly about their time at St. Anthony - New Brighton Schools.



Kickstarting our SANB Staff Wellness Journey

Staff participate in the first ever Wellness Cohort

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, many people report that they are more stressed, anxious, or simply burnt out. Educators are no different, so to address this, the St. Anthony- New Brighton School District has invested in the well-being of staff in a variety of ways, including the creation of a Wellness Cohort.

The Wellness Cohort is a diverse group of 14 educators from across the district in a variety of roles including nutrition services, paraeducators, teachers, and support staff. Led by the District Wellness Coordinator, Lori Watzl-King, who is a long-time St. Anthony resident, previously served as a nurse of SANB for 16 years. The group meets monthly to learn together about health and wellness topics. Each member also meets one-on-one with Watzl-King monthly to get support for their individual wellness goals. One cohort member shared that this kind of support has made a huge impact.

"It's great to be in a community focused on wellness and to also get to connect one on one with [Watzl-King] about goals, success, and challenges!"

For Watzl-King, her biggest focus is on students, dedicating almost half of her time to making sure students with chronic conditions have what they need in school and is the heart of the district's approach to nursing and wellness. She leads the Wellness Committee, who sets goals for wellness



and looks at all aspects of wellness for staff, students and families and has support from health aides who provide daily care to students, performing first aid and following health plans.

"I love being here and if I didn't like it, I would leave," jokes Watzl-King "The cohort members have become wellness champions for our school district and their positive wellness habits have had unexpected ripple effects on their families, friends, and coworkers. We are so excited to extend this opportunity to more staff next year!"

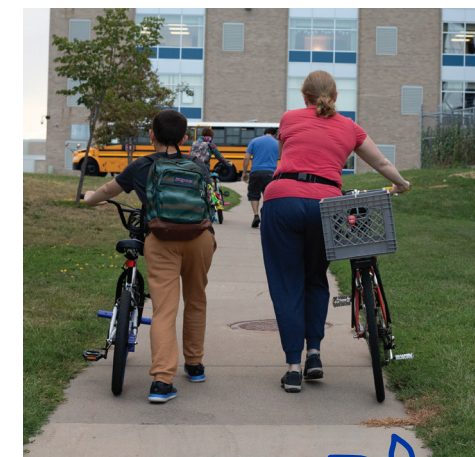
The results have exceeded all expectations. The group has exercised, run 5Ks, developed healthy eating habits, learned stress management techniques, increased mindfulness activities, and lost a combined 85 pounds. But, most importantly they feel more physically and mentally well!

"It has been amazing to focus solely on my wellness with no other agenda!"



93% of the Wellness Cohort members met their overall wellness goal

Year in Review



Retirement Honors: Thank you for your service

Congratulations to St. Anthony - New Brighton School staff who will be retiring this school year!

- **Peter Victorine**, SAVHS Social Studies, 32 years
- **Kirsten Donohue**, SAMS- Dean of Students, 25 years
- **Linda Admundsen**, SAMS/ SAVHS Nutrition Services Cook Manager, 31 years
- **Cathy Steen**, SAMS Special Education Paraprofessional, 20 years

We are grateful for your commitment to our district. We wish you a fulfilling, relaxing and well-deserved retirement!