



CENTENNIAL

SCHOOL DISTRICT 12

CONNECTING. ACHIEVING. PREPARING.

CELEBRATING
50

YEARS OF
THE OBSERVER

First issue published
August 1974.

THE OBSERVER

YOUR DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWS



Crossing the Finish Line

School is out for summer. Whether students crossed the finish line in June, completing another year of school or are graduates who crossed the finish line of their K-12 school years and are moving on to their next phase in life, Centennial's work to educate students follows its core values.

The Centennial School District's core values are **Connecting** and engaging students in meaningful ways, **Achieving** through academic excellence in learning and teaching while supporting students in growth and achievement, and **Preparing** students for their future by providing opportunities for academic excellence.

Let's highlight some of the programs in place at Centennial High School, from helping students academically to preparing them for a successful future.

It starts in the classroom. Our teachers make connections with students and their families through partnerships to help each student be successful at school. Our staff also helps create an environment where students can learn and grow. When extra academic support is needed, the school offers assistance from tutoring and collaborative study groups to study sessions and other opportunities. **Close the Gap** hosts after-school collaborative study sessions led by students of

color, and all students are welcome to attend. **Cougar Café** is another after-school support opportunity where licensed teachers are available to help support students in all course areas. During **LEAP (Lunch, Energize, Achieve, Participate)**, students have lunch and meet with teachers, retake assessments, connect and collaborate with peers, and take time to study and work on homework. The **Academic Assistance Center** is a tutoring center where students can access academic tutoring during the school day while in study hall or during LEAP.

"I go to the after-school study sessions to get involved and to help students interact, because it's something I really like to do; I really like to help students in need."

**UMA HACHIM, GRADE 10,
ON CLOSE THE GAP STUDY SESSIONS**

Students get a head start on their college journey, thanks to our Advanced Placement courses and College in the Schools classes taught by University of Minnesota professors. These classes allow students to earn college credit without leaving the school. We also have the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program in place, which has been instrumental in supporting students' college aspirations. This year, we're proud to announce our largest graduating class of AVID students, each with

a post-secondary plan. This achievement is a testament to the program's success and the potential for every student to pursue higher education with AVID's support and resources.

In our classrooms, you'll find psychology students gaining hands-on experience as they lead preschool activities through our Playschool program and we're excited to launch our new Manufacturing Pathway program at Centennial. Students enroll in career and technical courses through Northeast Metro Intermediate 916, and through our collaboration with Spring Lake Park, students can take courses through the Emergency Medical Services program. These initiatives provide unique career discovery opportunities, preparing students for success in a wide range of fields.

At Centennial, we believe in supporting the whole child. Our dedicated team of counselors focuses on the social and emotional health of our students, providing assistance and support to both students and their families. We also offer a variety of co-curricular opportunities where students can experience the benefits of teamwork, take on leadership roles, and challenge themselves outside of the classroom.

Congratulations to all of our students for crossing the finish line. Enjoy the summer and we'll see you in the fall!

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SUMMER ISSUE | 2024

Join our Team!

We are hiring! See employment opportunities at isd12.org/join-our-team. Substitutes are also needed for the 2024-2025 school year!

Teachers | Paraprofessionals ➡ Apply online at teachersoncall.com.

Administrative Assistant | Kids Club | Food Service | Custodial ➡ Apply online at isd12.org/join-our-team or call 763.792.6000

Nurses ➡ Contact Kelsi Gruber Kellerhuis at kgruber_kellerhuis@isd12.org for details.

ADJUSTING START AND END TIMES FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

All elementary schools, Centennial Middle School, Centennial High School, and the Centennial Area Learning Center will adjust their start time by five minutes. This change allows for more time between the secondary and elementary school schedules to help ensure buses run on time.

2024-2025 School Day Schedule

All Elementary Schools (grades K-5): 9:22 am - 3:52 pm
Centennial Middle School: 8:05 am - 2:55 pm
Centennial High School + Centennial Area Learning Center: 7:55 am - 2:43 pm





Hard work pays off! After several weeks of focused work on core content, Centennial Area Learning Center students enjoyed a field trip to Cheapskate for some fun relationship-building with peers and staff.



In a heartwarming display of community spirit, the Centerville Elementary Student Leadership Team and the PTA joined forces to spearhead a book drive in support of literacy initiatives across Minnesota.



Rice Lake Elementary students learned how Nashville Musician **Tim Halperin** writes songs based on everyday things that we experience or take for granted. He was kind and gracious with his time and even gave students some great feedback: Have fun and smile when you sing!



from the superintendent

As the summer issue of *The Observer* goes to press, many year-end events and activities recognized student accomplishments and community partnerships. We've celebrated academic promise for students through the National Merit Scholarship program and at our own Centennial High School Scholarship Night, when our community comes together to celebrate our students' successes with scholarships. The annual Centennial Area Education Foundation continues to support our newly launched Manufacturing Pathway program with generous donations made at its spring gala.

We celebrated our young learners with kindergarten graduations and marked the end of middle school for students with the annual eighth-grade dance. There have been field trips, the fifth-grade track and field day, and other experiences students can take with them as they wrapped up the school year and prepare for the new.

The year has been a testament to our students' many talents and interests. We've witnessed co-curricular accomplishments, from plays and musicals to outstanding performances by state-bound teams and individual student athletes. The football team paraded through our schools with their state trophy back in November, a moment that filled us all with pride. Our graduating seniors also had a memorable send-off, boarding school buses to visit their elementary school one last time, dressed in cap and gown, a heartwarming gesture that allowed them to reconnect with their teachers and fellow students.

We celebrated members of the Centennial community with the induction into the Hall of Fame. The two newest members are great examples of the spirit of giving back and the Centennial community.

Our facilities planning work to ensure success and opportunities for all students launched during the 2023-2024 school year and will continue into the fall. A community input team helped shape the plan. Look for opportunities to learn more about our schools' long-range enrollment and facility plans once school is back in session.

Thank you for your partnership this school year. Although the last school bell rang by the time this arrived in your mailbox, our doors are open for learning all summer long. I hope you enjoy the days ahead with family and friends. We will see you in September!

Jeff Holmberg
Superintendent of Schools

school news



OLD SHOES WITH A PURPOSE
The Blue Heron Elementary PTO kicked off an incredible service project that not only brings in funds but also benefits the environment - a win-win situation! The Shoe Drive began its journey in May with everyone at Blue Heron pitching in to collect shoes and contribute to a good cause. The PTO will earn money based on the overall weight of the shoes collected, truly turning old footwear into opportunities! Keep those shoes coming and let's make a positive impact together!



With the supportive guidance of the PTO, Blue Heron Elementary is already looking into growing the Shoe Drive in the fall, promising a bright future for both the school and the environment.



FOSTERING A STRONG SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Students, families, and staff at Centennial Elementary celebrated experiences and partnerships as the school year wrapped up. The involvement and support of families are invaluable and play a crucial role in fostering a strong school community.



The first-grade team at Centennial Elementary welcomed families to celebrate student progress through their portfolio share. It was a joy to see parents and students engage in meaningful conversations about learning achievements.



SUPPORTING READERS
To ignite enthusiasm and engagement for the book drive at Centerville Elementary, the Student Leadership Team produced an informational video for fellow students and delivered donation boxes to each classroom. During the whirlwind three-day period, the school community banded together to contribute an impressive total of 4,619 books to Books for Better MN, a non-profit organization committed to nurturing literacy and fostering a passion for reading.



GENERATING ENERGY
In addition to the energy created around the fun of learning, connecting with, and working with others that can be found inside Golden Lake Elementary, you can find energy being produced on the roof of the school, too! The solar project is a partnership with Ideal Energies and is one of 80 schools in 45 districts across the state to receive grants through the Minnesota Department of Commerce for Solar for Schools Program. Students can see first-hand solar power at work and learn about clean energy technology and careers. To date, benefits include 42,614.52 pounds of CO₂ emission saved which is equivalent to planting 322 trees.



Golden Lake Elementary's solar power production can offset up to 60% of daily usage in the school on a good, solar day.



GOING ON A MUSICAL ADVENTURE
Second grade students at Rice Lake Elementary had the opportunity to connect with Nashville Musician **Tim Halperin** thanks to the amazing talents of music teacher **Mrs. Trebesch**. Halperin, the writer and performer of the song "Where the Adventure Begins" met with students virtually and caught a performance by the students complete with choreography.



Students at the Pines School were tasked with creating a scene, only using cardboard and some other minimal materials and worked together to produce a group project. The project was led by Art Teacher **Carrie Davies**.



FROM NOVEL TO CLASSROOM
Mr. Schroeder, eighth grade language arts teacher, is a talented educator who incorporates his ability to sing, play instruments, and do theatrical voices into his teaching. Each year students and staff look forward to the transformation of his classroom into *The Hobbit* from J.R.R. Tolkien, one of the classic fantasy novels that is taught inside the learning standards.



The Hobbit comes to life each year and the classroom becomes the Shire. Thank you, Mr. Schroeder, for providing an amazing learning experience for our students!



Seniors' plans after high school graduation (college, work, trade school travel, military, etc.) were celebrated on Decision Day in May. Photo credit: **Hannah Hentges**

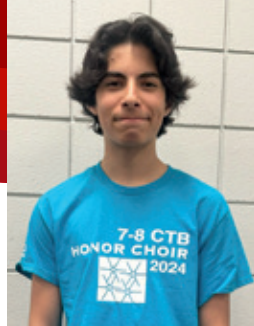


The 2024 graduates boarded school buses for one last ride—back to their elementary school. The students paraded through their school's hallways, giving our younger learners the opportunity to see the graduates first-hand and instilling the goal of graduation.

ACADEMIC PROMISE
Congratulations to seniors **Corynn Harvieux**, **Isaiah Theisen**, and **Charles Wills** on being named National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists. Out of the 1.5 million entrances into the scholarship competition, only 15,000, or 1%, of students earn this academic award from the National Merit Scholarship Program.



WRAPPING UP A GREAT YEAR
The Centennial Area Learning Center's focus on core content is helping several junior students take college courses through the partnership with the 916 Career and Technical Center in the fall. The CALC Class of 2024 is one of the largest groups of seniors to graduate. Congratulations to the 21 graduating seniors!



Lexi Sanburg (12) is leaving her mark on the school by creating a mural at Centennial High School that honors the Native American community. The artwork's focus is the sacred and spiritual buffalo. The project was featured in *The Quad Press*, *Star Tribune* and on North Metro TV.

Congratulations to **Farris Kassem (8)** who was selected out of hundreds of candidates to participate in the annual American Choral Director's Association Honor Choir Festival this spring.



Centennial's Robotics Team, the Centurions, competed at the FIRST Championships in Houston, Texas with nearly 600 other teams from all over the world. The team earned this honor by winning the FIRST Impact Award for the impact students have made on the Centennial community over the past three years. Thank you to the Centurion mentors for your support!

CENTENNIAL

student news



Congratulations to **Madeline Perron (12)**, finishing first place in the HOSA Future Health Professionals State Community Emergency Response Team competition.

Tatum Stewart (10) received a citizen lifesaving award by the Lino Lakes City Council for her quick actions to help save her dad's life before first responders' arrival. Stewart credits her quick thinking, CPR, and emergency skills learned in her Middle School health class.

Jozie Kelzenberg (7) is the recipient of the Sue Ring-Jarvi Player of the Year award. Kelzenberg plays for the Centennial-Spring Lake Park Girls Youth Hockey and helped the team with a runner-up finish at the 12A State Tournament.



MUSIC NOTES

Instrumental Solo and Ensemble Contest Results: Ninety-five students from Centennial High School performed in 50 events and received ratings by certified judges. Students received 14 ratings of Excellent and 36 ratings of Superior. Best at Site Awards: **Caleb Nelson (10)**, **Charlie Lovett (10)**, **Alyssa Carlson (12)**, and **Ruth Gale (12)**.



Congratulations to the cast and crew of *The Little Mermaid*, recipients of several Spotlight Showcase awards by the Hennepin Theatre Trust.

Vocal Solo and Ensemble Contest Results: Out of the 53 Centennial entries, 45 entries received Superior.

Student participants: **Jackson Bentrup (10)**, **Justin Driver (10)**, **Jackie Gutierrez Ramirez (12)**, **Eva Maier (11)**, **Ozzie Montgomery (10)**, **Remi Sisk (10)**, **Calvin Coppersmith (10)**, **Sydney Berens (12)**, **Sophia Berkowitz (12)**, **Jaiden Berres (10)**, **Lily Brausen (10)**, **Ella Brewster (12)**, **Alyssa Carlson (12)**, **Natalie Clarys (12)**, **Bella Crosby (11)**, **Lexie Dresen (10)**, **Riley Eckman (11)**, **Elsie Efram (10)**, **Hallie Eicher (10)**, **Grace Ferguson (10)**, **Zoe Ford (10)**, **Quinn Foreman (11)**, **Ruth Gale (12)**, **Talen Greeson (12)**, **Olivia Hartmann (11)**, **Chloe Hatfield (10)**, **Elle Hinds (12)**, **Natalie Jefferson (10)**, **Mars Kosevich (12)**, **Sarah Kufner (10)**, **Paige Lahm (11)**,

Charlie Lovett (10), **Isaac Lutz (10)**, **Noah Marquard (12)**, **Kianna McNeil (10)**, **Cassie Nuutinen (11)**, **Liliana Olson (10)**, **Addison Paasch (10)**, **Crow Pinsonnault (10)**, **Katlynn Pracht (10)**, **CarlyFaith Ratgen (10)**, **Brielle Reynolds (10)**, **Nathan Roe (12)**, **Donovan Rogers (12)**, **Mackenzie Schmitt (11)**, **Abigail Schull (11)**, **Aidan Schulze (10)**, **Sophia Smith (10)**, **Chase Sonderman (11)**, **Gabriela St. Martin (12)**, **Emily Tran (11)**, and **Abby Wood (12)**. Best at Site Awards: **Charlie Lovett (10)**, solo; **Alyssa Carlson (12)** and **Ruth Gale (12)**, duet.

9/10 American Choral Directors Associations Minnesota Honor Choirs: **Jaiden Berres (10)**, **Brayden Boesch (9)**, **David Carlson (10)**, **Chloe Hatfield (10)**, **Natalie Jefferson (10)**, **Charlie Lovett (10)**,



Centennial High School Band was represented at the Conference Music Festival this spring by **Harrison Grant (12)**, **Johnny Ziebol (12)**, **Andrew Schulze (12)**, **Natalie Clarys (12)**, **Ander Julson (11)**, **Margaret Crowder (11)**, **Katie Dorough (12)**, **Jordis Linke (12)**, **Kara Kimball (11)**.

Crow Pinsonnault (10), **Brielle Reynolds (10)**, **Aidan Schulze (10)**, **Sophia Smith (10)**, and **Lilly Yang (10)**.

Minnesota Music Educators Associations All-State Choirs, Bands, and Orchestra: **Natalie Clarys (12)** All-State Orchestra; **Riley Eckman (11)** All-State SSAA Choir; **Paige Lahm (11)** All-State SSAA Choir; **Leo Lehman (11)** All-State Symphonic Band; **Noah Marquard (12)** All-State TTBB Choir; **Nathan Roe (12)** All-State TTBB Choir; **Donovan Rogers (12)** All-State SATB Choir; **CJ Sorem (12)** All-State Symphonic Band.

2024 NWSC All-Conference Choir: Seniors **Sydney Berens**, **Alyssa Carlson**, **Ruth Gale**, **Elle Hinds**, **Noah Marquard**, **Donovan Rogers**, **Nathan Roe**, and **Kirubel Woldehana**.

district news



Congratulations to **Neil Kruse** and **Bernie Bautch** who were inducted into the Centennial Hall of Fame for their service to the school district.

Hall of Fame New Inductees

The Class of 2024 was inducted into the Centennial Hall of Fame on May 9 for their longstanding history of service to the district. The event was held at Infinite Campus and hosted by **Charlie Kratsch ('85)**, the company's CEO and a member of the Hall of Fame Class of 2013.

Bernie Bautch, retired cook manager at Centennial High School, is honored for her service to the district from 1982-2022 for

the connections she made with students; for the creation of the Cook's Scholarship by her and fellow staff so graduates can realize their dreams; for her professionalism—from the kitchen to the countless hours served on district committees and representing fellow employees; and for her work recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, the Governor and the state of Minnesota.

Neil Kruse, retired sixth grade teacher and coach at Centennial Schools, is honored for his service from 1985-2022 for his love of teaching in the classroom and coaching; for making connections with students, student athletes, and cross-country state-bound teams; for bringing his work ethic learned on the farm and the love for play to our schools; and for giving back to the Centennial community and making a difference in students' lives as he continues to provide learning opportunities for students throughout the state through support of nonprofits.



MOVING OVER THE SUMMER? Are you moving and still residing in

the Centennial School District or are you moving out of the district and not returning to Centennial Schools in the fall? Please call the District Office at 763.792.6000 with address changes.

IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION

Minnesota Statute 121A.15 requires children enrolled in childcare, early childhood education, or school to be immunized against certain diseases, unless the child is medically or non-medically exempt. If proper documentation is not provided, students will be unable to attend school after Nov. 1, 2024. What you need to do:

- Contact your health care provider and review your child's

immunization status to make sure they are up to date.

- If you missed a required vaccination, make an appointment with a healthcare provider or local clinic as soon as possible.
- Follow up with your students' school if they have reached out to you regarding your students' immunization status.
- Turn in medical (must be signed by a health care provider) and non-medical (must be notarized) exemption forms to your child's school if they are exempt from immunizations.

Visit health.state.mn.us/people/immunize for vaccine schedules, exemption forms and more.

DISCOVER CENTENNIAL SCHOOLS

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is available at isd12.org.

Do you know of a family who lives outside the Centennial School District boundaries and is interested in attending our schools? Open Enrollment for the 2024-2025 is being accepted. See isd12.org.

Do you have children not yet enrolled in Centennial Schools? Tell us you are here so the district can plan for the future. Call the District Office at 763.792.6000.





BOYS HOCKEY MSHSL STATE TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANT

HEATH NELSON (12), AC
AUSTIN PETERSEN (12), AC
GAVIN SCHAHN (12), AC

ALEX CLAMPITT (12), HM
EASTON CODY (11), AC
COOPER HEHIR (10), HM



2024 CLASS AA HERB BROOKS AWARD WINNER

HARPER SEARLES (12), AC, STATE
 ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM, 2024 CLASS AA
 HERB BROOKS AWARD WINNER



RITCH MENNE

MINNESOTA HOCKEY COACHES
 ASSOCIATION STATE AA COACH OF THE
 YEAR AWARD & BOYS HOCKEY 5AA
 COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



GARY TOLKINEN

MINNESOTA HOCKEY COACHES
 ASSOCIATION STATE AA ASSISTANT
 COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD & BOYS
 HOCKEY 5AA SECTION ASSISTANT
 COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

sports & activities



GYMNASTICS

JENNA SIMSO (12), AC
MICHAELA OSLAND (8), ALL AROUND AC, INDIVIDUAL
 STATE QUALIFIER, VAULT



GIRLS HOCKEY

KATIE BALL (10), AC
KAITLIN GROESS (12), AC, ALL STATE,
 JORI JONES SENIOR GOALIE OF THE
 YEAR FINALIST
NOELLE HEMR (12), AC
TEAGAN KULENKAMP (11), AC,
 ALL STATE HM
GRACE LAAGER, SPRING LAKE PARK
 COOPERATIVE (9), AC, ALL STATE HM
ALEXIS LARSEN (11), AC
ELLIE NEWPOWER (12), AC



SEAN MOLIN

GIRLS HOCKEY SECTION
 5AA COACH OF THE YEAR

ANNABELLE BUCCICONE (8), HM
MIA SUTCH, SPRING LAKE PARK
 COOPERATIVE (8), HM
BROOKE UELAND (9), HM
MADELINE WOLTER, SPRING LAKE PARK
 COOPERATIVE (9), HM



WRESTLING GOLD ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – TEAM CUMULATIVE GPA 3.59

MARCUS WHITING (12), AC,
 INDIVIDUAL STATE QUALIFIER
NORA AKPAN (10), AC,
 INDIVIDUAL STATE QUALIFIER
LUCY DROPPS (12), AC

ALAINA FRANCO (11), AC,
 INDIVIDUAL STATE QUALIFIER
TYLER COOK (10), AC
LOGAN FU (10), HM
AIDAN FORD (11), HM

ANDREW PERSON (10), HM
JACK RUEGSEGGER (9), HM
PEYTON CORBIN (11), AC
EMILY MCDONALD (9), HM
ZOE FORD (10), HM



DANCE TEAM SILVER ACADEMIC AWARD – TEAM CUMULATIVE GPA 3.5-3.74

CORYNN HARVIEUX (12), AC, ALL-STATE,
 SENIOR ACADEMIC ALL-STATE
LAUREN PUMPER (12), AC
JENNA SKOGEN (12), AC
MAESA STEGEMAN (12), AC
CECILLIA AUSTIN (10), HM
GRACE FERGUSON (10), HM

RACQUEL BECK (12), HM, SENIOR
 ACADEMIC ALL-STATE
EMILIE TRAN (12), SENIOR ACADEMIC
 ALL-STATE
ELYSIA THURMES (12), SENIOR
 ACADEMIC ALL-STATE AWARD



BOYS SWIM & DIVE BRONZE TEAM ACADEMIC AWARD – TEAM CUMULATIVE GPA 3.437

CALEB CREGAN (11), AC, BROKE
 EIGHT-YEAR RECORD, 100-YARD
 BACKSTROKE WITH TIME OF 53.54
JOSEPH MURRAY (11), AC
NELSEN-MANFRED POSCHER
 (12), AC
BENNO SCHUHBAUER (9), AC
SAWYER CELOTTA (9), HM
TYLER CELOTTA (12), HM

TALEN GREESON (12), HM
MATTHEW KUFNER (11), HM
ALEXANDER LARKIN (12), HM
JAEDYN LYNCH-RYGH (10), HM
ELIJAH MANTHEI (8), HM
ISAAC NGUYEN (10), HM
GRANT PAGE (9), HM
BLAKE THORSON (8), HM

STATE QUALIFIERS
 200 Yard Medley Relay: **CALEB
 CREGAN, BENNO SCHUHBAUER,
 TYLER CELOTTA, JOSEPH MURRAY**
 200 Yard Individual Medley:
CALEB CREGAN
 50 Yard Freestyle: **JOSEPH MURRAY**
 100 Meter Backstroke: **CALEB CREGAN**



NORDIC SKI

KYLIE NELSON (11), AC
JULIA ZALEWSKI (12), AC

NOAH MARQUARD (12), AC



ALPINE SKI

BRUCE JOHNSON (12), AC
TYLER MCDEW (12), AC
CALEB NELSON (10), AC
ELEANOR NELSON (8), AC
HAILEY PETERSON (8), AC

KATHERINE TOENSING (12), AC
ANNIE TRETTEL (12), AC
GWEN HALVERSON (10), HM
DANIEL SCHOOLEY (11), HM

ANNA CRANDALL, SPRING LAKE
 PARK COOPERATIVE (11), HM
HADLEY GOOCHEY, SPRING LAKE
 PARK COOPERATIVE (8), HM



GIRLS BASKETBALL

MARISA FROST (12), AC, ACADEMIC
 ALL-STATE, MGBCA ALL STATE HM,
 MGBCA MISS BASKETBALL CANDIDATE

AUTUM MCCALL (11), AC
JORDAN METZ (12), HM
MOLLY MONSON (10), HM



BOYS BASKETBALL

TY BURGOON (12), AC
JACKSON DRIESSEN (11), HM

JACOB HOSFIELD (11), HM



ADAPTED FLOOR HOCKEY

ABIGAIL PASS (11), AC
TIMOTHY (TJ) LICHTENBERG (11), HM
TATE MORRIS (11), HM

CARSON SNELL (12), HM
ANNA HEMBRE (11), HM

donor news

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CENTENNIAL STUDENTS

Congratulations!

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 566, Sydney Berens, Sophia Daigle; **American Legion Post #566**, Katelyn Hamski; **A.P. Bergee Scholarship**, Emmaline Bassey, Riley Diebes; **Bill and Cathy Streit Scholarship**, Nathan Roe; **Blaine Police Federation**, Timothy Ball; **Bluedorn Jumpstart Scholarship**, Brooke Schmidt; **Blue Heron Elementary PTO Scholarship**, Ruby Reisdorfer, Isaiah Theisen; **CAEF Arts Academics & Athletics (AAA Winners)**, Corynn Harvieux, Noah Marquard; **CAEF - Jan Kreminski Scholarship**, Benjamin Ramacher; **CAEF - AVID Scholarship**, Gavin Jorud; **CAEF - Business Scholarship**, Ava Sobolik; **CAEF - Blue Heron Elementary Scholarship**, Racquel Beck; **CAEF - Centennial Alternative Learning Center Scholarship**, Gracilyn Jaworsky, Makenna Thalhuber; **CAEF - Centennial Elementary Scholarship**, Cordelia Kewatt; **CAEF - Centerville Elementary Scholarship**, Peyton Brezny; **CAEF - Golden Lake Elementary Scholarship**, Jacquelyn Nieno; **CAEF - Medical/Healthcare Scholarship**, Julia Zalewski; **CAEF - Rice Lake Elementary Scholarship**, Katherine Toensing; **CAEF - Trades Scholarship**, Will Aga, Siri Kjorlien; **Centennial Alumni Association Scholarship**, Lily Gulaid, Allie Guyer, Jake Robinson; **Centennial Basketball Association Scholarship**, Keaten Frase, Marisa Frost, Luke Gunderman, Josh Lee, Tyler Mabry; **Centennial Choir Boosters Club Scholarship**, Sydney Berens, Gabrielle Hinds, Noah Marquard, Nathan Roe; **Centennial Boys Hockey Blue Line Club**, Kellen Krumwiede; **Centennial Education Association**, Keaten Frase, Lexie

Herrick; **Centennial Girls Hockey Blue Line Club**, Ellie Newpower; **Centennial High School Girls Soccer Booster Scholarship**, Sophia Daigle, Addison Van Zee; **Centennial High School Boys Lacrosse**, Cameron Sherer; **Centennial Municipal Utilities Scholarship**, Nora Fredrick, Cameron Sherer; **Centennial Wrestling Steve Peterson Memorial Scholarship**, Luke Timko; **Centennial Youth Hockey Association Scholarship**, Timothy Ball, Callie Casura; **Chain of Lakes Rotary STRIVE Scholarship**, Jayden Kampa, Makayla Kampmeyer, Malena Madland, Yusuf Mohamed, Emily Oppenheim; **Connexus Energy Foundation**, Keaten Frase, William Havran, Josie Neibergall; **Cougar Football Big Paw Scholarship**, Ty Burgoon, Owen Ringen, Blake Scheierl; **David Dobovsky Student Council Scholarship**, Lukas Andrie, Elise Fenstermacher; **Don and Josie Bradli Scholarship**, Elysia Thurmes; **CAEF - Dwight Benoy Engineering Scholarship**, Amelia Bjerketvedt; **CAEF - Teachers Choice**, Aidan Ballard, Jacob Brewster, Braeden French, Abigail Wood; **Erin Hennes Memorial Scholarship**, Quinn Budge; **Gene Haas Foundation Scholarship**, Tyler Celotta, Matt Duerr, Noah Marquard; **Jerry Pounds Memorial Scholarship**, Allie Guyer; **Jim Feneis Family Trust Baseball and Golden Lake Elementary Mentoring Scholarship**, Ty Escobedo, Luke Gunderman; **Julie Fjeld Memorial Scholarship**, Emilia Lauinger, Jenna Skogen; **Kopp Family Foundation, Michael Aska**, Shea Krumwiede, Karley Lacis; **Kwapick Family Scholarship**, Marcus Whiting; **Mark Francis Quinlan Fine Arts Legacy**



Chain of Lakes Rotary STRIVE Scholarship recipients are Malena Madland, Yusuf Mohamed, Jayden Kampa, Emily Oppenheim, and Makayla Kampmeyer.



CAEF DONOR NEWS

The Centennial Area Education Foundation (CAEF) generous supporters continue to advance learning experiences for students at Centennial Schools. Dedicated to improving educational and teaching outcomes, CAEF's partnership with Centennial ISD 12 and the community equip the next generation of learners to reach their fullest potential. The generosity of all comes together on behalf of our students. Learn more at caefoundation.org.



Elysia Thurmes is the recipient of the Don and Josie Bradli Scholarship.

Scholarship, Natalie Clarys, Gabrielle Hinds; **Memorial Blood Drive Scholarship**, Katelyn Hamski, Emilia Lauinger, Jacquelyn Nieno; **Minnesota School Employees Association Scholarship**, Landon Barno, Ty Burgoon, Jacob O'Shea, Bryce Swanson; **New Creations Childcare Scholarship**, Elysia Thurmes; **Rice Lake Elementary PTA Scholarship**, Jenna Skogen, Elysia Thurmes; **Robert McMorrin Memorial Instrumental Music Scholarship**, Natalie Clarys; **Terri Klebe Golden Lake Elementary Mentoring Scholarship**, Landon Barno, Natalie Clarys, Nora Fredrick, Brody Johnson, Amanda Miller, Jake Robinson; **Thomas Drow Memorial Scholarship**, Ian Wistrill; **Tom Kaluza Memorial Scholarship**, Eliphaz Getachew; **True North Family Foundation Baseball Scholarship**, Peyton Streit; **True North Family Foundation Leadership Scholarship**, Emilie Tran; **Zach Nordine Next Chapter Scholarship/McNally Smith College of Music**, Gabrielle Hinds.

DONATIONS NEEDED!

Adopt A Backpack:

Donate school supplies to help ensure all students are ready for back-to-school in the fall. See centennialbackpack.org for information.



PowerPack: Thanks for your support this school year! Your donations provide a weekend bag of food for Centennial students. See centennialfoodshelf.org/power-pack to learn how you can help.



Marcus Whiting is the recipient of the Kwapick Family Scholarship.



alumni news

We want to hear from you! Send your alumni news to info@isd12.org.

CENTENNIAL ALUMNI PAY IT FORWARD: CAEF GALA

At the CAEF Gala the Centennial Alumni Association sponsored two auction items to benefit both students and teachers. The Centennial Alumni "Pay it Forward" auction item allows the winning bidder to gift a day off and a MINT Salon spa package to any Centennial teacher in the district.

This year the Austin family and a group of six families donated generously to give Blue Heron kindergarten teacher **Angie Forte** and Centennial Middle School Language Arts teacher **Abbey Bliss**, a much deserved day off and MINT Salon spa package. Both teachers were quite surprised at this unexpected generosity and are very grateful for this gift.

The Centennial Alumni Association wishes to recognize and thank MINT Salon and CAEF for supporting this event.



CENTENNIAL ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Centennial Alumni Association awarded three \$500 scholarships to students demonstrating high academic achievement and a commitment to the Centennial community through participation in school and community activities, leadership positions, volunteer experience, and a desire to give back in the future as alumni. Students must have a parent or grandparent who is an alumnus of Centennial High School to be eligible.



2024 Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients are Lily Gulaid, Allie Guyer, and Jake Robinson.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES!

Through Alumni Association Scholarships, graduates are awarded the support to help them pursue their post-secondary plans.

Stay Connected with Alumni

Graduate of CHS? Stay in touch with Centennial by connecting with alumni on:

Centennial Alumni Association (Official)

chsALUMNIisd12

isd12.org/get-involved/alumni-association

For more information, email centennialalumniassociation@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1994
September 28, 2024

INFO

See the Facebook group for reunion details.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO CENTENNIAL. CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!

Jim Anderson, Julie Athman, Nate Balzer, Lisa Brown, Julie Nardecchia,

Sue Cardinal, Julie Cross, Cheryl Dettmer, Renee Dion, Curt Gutbrod, Todd Heilig, Karen Johnson, Beth Kirkland, Ty Kytta, Colleen Law, Mark Lendway, Linda Melcher, Therese Patterson, Dawn Prax, Diane Roman, Theresa Siegienski, Mary Vanyo.

HATS OFF TO MR. RASMUSSEN!

Shane Rasmussen, math teacher at Centennial High School for 30 years, is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Grinnell College for contributions he has made to the teaching profession. Rasmussen was nominated by a

former student and comments from the commencement include his interest in the whole student and that students learned not only math, but important lessons in believing in their own capacity to grow and learn. Grinnell is the only college or university that awards an honorary degree to a K-12 teacher every year.

staff news

Staff Appreciation

The School Board recognizes staff for their years of service:

5 Years // Elizabeth Anderson, Lindsay Bartlett, Tracy Bauer, Jack Bergeland, Katie Berquist, Nicole Carter, Kerry Chaffey, Kelly Dawe, Jenni Dorough, Kirsten Fernstrom, Jennifer Flaschberger, Matt Gallagher, Megan Gemuenden, Caleb Glass, Robert Graham, Lindsey Gresback, Stephen Hemming, Erin Johnson, Sarah Kolenbrander, Brenna Kraft, Colleen Law, Tara Malinski, Tracy Merrell, Deanne Miller, Jamie Olivera, Cynthia Paquette, Abby Pullman, John Reisdorf, Laura Sandberg, Stephanie Scheibe, Cindy Singer, Aaron Stack, Paulette Torgerson, Danielle Trebesch, Brianna Vincent, Heather Voss, Alexis Wikstrom.

10 Years // Jason Andres, Megan Berres, Karen Blatt, Melanie Bruyers, Roland Cruikshank, Maria De Perez, Martha DeBilzan, Ian Hanlon, Shannon Hanlon, Emily Hennen, Lori Houle, Jacob Howells, Erik Johnson, Greg Johnson, Ann Kelling, Craig Larson, Mike Macken, Angela Mahrt, Janet McClellan, Nate Minick, Jennifer O'Shea, Dave Poppe, Megan Rognrud, Tobie Sanvick, Derrick Skogstad, Chris Storberg, Shannon Swanson.

15 Years // Jean Blum, Chris Boyer, Michelle Breault, Kate Cassidy, Nicole Oertel, Emily Tjaden.

20 Years // Gretchen Anderson, Monique Barrett, Casey Berg, Pam Bostick, Connie Brandt, Marlene Chamberlain, Christy Hamblin, Karen Hildebrandt, Sherri Lundberg, Molly Nelson, Samantha Rice, Jennifer Sand, Deborah Stevens, Donna Walter, Christine Yernberg.

25 Years // Mary Andrews, Nate Balzer, Shawn Berg, John Bergeland, Kathy Berrios-Cordero, Michelle Campbell, Patricia Christenson, Andrew Haag, Tashya Hedding, Amy Hofland, Nicole Keough, Brenda Kwapick, Angela Law, Tim Lovdahl, Barbara Moody, Therese Patterson, Pam Rehnelt, Ward Saba, Pamela Sievert, Jamie Sobolik, Bob Stevens, Christina Stromberg, Kristina Thom, Tracy Wikstrom.

30 Years // Christina Allison, Mary Casareto, Pete Crawford, Rachel Kruger, Colleen Landin, Brian Marquardt, Andy Marshall, Jane McKoskey, Dave Mundale, Teresa Parker, Janice Sieg, Brad Stamman.

35 Years // Cheryl Dettmer, Mary Erickson, Jodi Phillips, Dawn Prax.

40 Years // Sandy Joselyn.

Centennial Employee of the Year

Emily Hjelle, special education teacher and former third grade teacher at Golden Lake Elementary, for always searching for new ways to engage students in learning, for making connections with students, their families, and staff, for rallying the team for student success, and for her leadership in the school.



Becky Weiland, instrumental music teacher at Centennial High School, for the incredible investment she makes in her students, their families, and colleagues, for her leadership at Centennial and throughout the state, and for her energy and passion for students and their education, and for teaching with a big heart.



Rich Williams, technology specialist at Centennial High School, for his tireless efforts to make connections with and support of students and staff, for his calm, witty, and professional demeanor even in the most trying of times (when technology doesn't work the way we want it to), and for the impact he has made on Centennial High School and the district through problem-solving and collaboration with colleagues.



SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM ACKNOWLEDGED

Centennial's summer food program is the recipient of a Bronze Turnip the Beet Award from the United States Department of Agriculture. The program was recognized for the connections staff make by having lunch with the students who participate and encouraging healthy and positive discussions around the food served. Overall, thirty-seven programs were recognized in the Midwest region with gold, silver, and bronze awards.



community ed

Summer is Sensational with Community Education!

More activities are happening all summer long! View all offerings in our online registration, isd12.ce.eleyo.com.

FOR YOUTH:

- Chess Summer Camp** (entering gr. 1-5), July 8
- More Than Pink** (entering gr. 4-7), July 9
- World Games Engineering** (entering gr. 3-7), July 22
- Canvas Fun: Smiley Sloth** (entering gr. 1-5), July 25
- Kids Obstacle/Mud Run** (ages 4-12), Aug. 5
- Rock 'n' Roll Band Camp** (entering gr. 6-8), Aug. 12

- Grown Up & Me-Owl Painting** (ages 6+/adult 16+ pair), July 20
- Golden Lake Gallop fun run** (all ages/family), Aug. 10



FOOD TRUCK & FUN FESTIVAL!

Join us for an evening of food and family fun as we raise money for our Financial Assistance Program! **Thursday, Aug. 15, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm at Centennial Middle School.** There will be a variety of yummy food options, a car show, demonstrations, and more. A portion of the food truck sales will benefit the Community Education Financial Assistance Program.

FOR ADULTS:

- Boot Camp/Core Fitness**, July 1
- MN Twins Baseball Game**, July 24
- Outdoor Barn Quilt Painting**, July 26
- Photographing Summer Flowers**, Aug. 10
- Millner Heritage Vineyard & Winery**, Aug. 20

DO TOGETHER:

- Centennial Alumni Shakespeare Theater** (entering gr. 6-adult), July 15

Register for classes and activities at community.ed.isd12.org

Click on Community Education under the list of schools on the isd12.org website to find our online registration system. You may also call our main line to register over the phone, 763.792.6100. Financial assistance may be available.



ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION (ACE)

English language classes are offered for free at Centennial to support adults who may be immigrants or refugees. Classes are available in-person and online throughout the year. Contact **Pearl Cheng**, 763.792.5054 for more information.



KIDS CLUB

Kids Club is hiring! Full Time Assistant Site Manager positions include a benefits package and pay starting at \$18.50. We are also looking for Kids Club Workers and substitutes, with pay starting at \$16.50 for the 2024-25 school year. Applicants must be 16 years of age. Apply online, isd12.org/join-our-team. Contact **Molly Nelson**, mnelson@isd12.org with questions.



AQUATICS

Open Swim is available Sundays and Thursdays, through August 8, 5:30 pm-7:00 pm, \$2/per person at the Centennial Community Pool. Contact **Clare Waddell** for questions regarding swim lessons and pool rental, cwaddell@isd12.org, 763.792.6115.



EARLY CHILDHOOD (ECFE)

Join us in ECFE or Preschool next school year! We welcome families to register for our remaining spots in Full and Part-Day Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE). Visit earlychildhood.isd12.org for more information.



MUSIC ON THE LAKE-IT'S GOLDEN!

It's our biggest concert line-up yet!

- June 27:** Family DJ Dance Party 6:00 pm-7:00 pm
- July 11:** The Floras 7:00 pm-8:30 pm
- August 1:** Salsa del Soul 7:00 pm-8:30 pm
- August 8:** Holy Rocka Rollaz 7:00 pm-8:30 pm
- August 22:** The Revolution 5 7:00 pm-8:30 pm
- August 29:** Stir Crazy Band 7:00 pm-8:30 pm

Free concerts at Golden Lake Park are co-sponsored by Community Education and the City of Circle Pines.

LOOKING AHEAD...

The Fall Activity Guide will open for registration beginning Monday, August 5.

THE OBSERVER

YOUR DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWS

The Observer is published for residents and business owners of Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Lexington, Lino Lakes and the families enrolled in the Centennial School District. Residents and business owners receive this publication because of their support for the District through tax payments.

DISTRICT OFFICE 4707 North Road | Circle Pines | MN 55014 | 763.792.6000
www.isd12.org

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 6:30 pm at the District Office Board Room unless otherwise indicated. See isd12.org to view agendas, watch live-stream from your own device, or view meetings from the archive.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Knisely, *Chair*
tknisely@isd12.org

Sue Linser, *Vice-Chair*
slinser@isd12.org

Craig Johnson, *Clerk*
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CREDITS

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NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Centennial School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation or disability in its programs and activities.