

AUGUST 2024

BRIDGES AREA LEARNING CENTER



**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
FOR BRIDGES GRADES 9-
12 IS WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 4TH
8:05AM-2:50PM**

**SCHEDULES POSTED ON
OR ABOUT THE LAST
WEEK IN AUGUST**

WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL YEAR!

Hello Bridges families and students!

We are preparing and looking forward to seeing everyone back for the 2024-2025 school year. Please read through this newsletter for important info and updates.

Our mission is to educate all learners to reach their full potential as contributing and productive members of our ever changing global community.

Bridges prioritizes personalized experiences through instruction, project based learning, programming with exceptional staff – ensuring students feel they belong, are cared for and are safe.

We also are excited to share that we are welcoming two new special education teachers to Bridges this fall! Please be sure to stop by and welcome Ms. Berg and Ms. Kowalkowski.

Our first event is our Open House on Wed., Aug 28th from 5pm to 8pm. We hope to see you there!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions!

Kind Regards,
Paul Donner
Bridges Interim Administrator
pdonner@plsas.org



Bridges will be open from 5pm to 8pm on Wednesday August 28th.
Come see the school, get your schedule, meet teachers and
staff!

We will have some grilled goodies and snacks to enjoy while we
visit, answer questions and complete any missing forms!
15870 Fish Point Road, Prior Lake, MN, USA

OpenHouse



Attendance matters!

Regular school attendance is one of the most important factors for school success and progression towards graduation. Bridges staff works to establish strong connections, positive experiences and a supportive environment for students success. Below are some highlights of our attendance policy and procedures:

Absences should be reported to school via attendance email (alcattendance@plsas.org) or call 952-226-0840.

Excessive absences may result in loss of credit, truancy or both.

Our student support staff are here to support good school attendance. Please reach out at any time!

Students and families sometimes ask if students can do classes online. Bridges is not an online school and all students are required to attend in-person.



BUS STOP INFORMATION

**BRIDGES STUDENTS RIDE BUS #64 TO BRIDGES FROM PLHS AND BACK AGAIN
AT
THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY. FROM THERE THEY WILL CATCH THEIR
NEIGHBORHOOD BUS HOME.**

**BUS SCHEDULES, INCLUDING PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF TIMES AND LOCATIONS,
WILL BE POSTED IN INFINITE CAMPUS NEAR THE END OF AUGUST.**

**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS ARE ABLE TO ACCESS TRANSPORTATION
INFORMATION BY LOGGING IN TO INFINITE CAMPUS.**

**PLEASE BE SURE TO LOOK
AT THIS INFORMATION AGAIN RIGHT BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS AS TIMES CAN
CHANGE DUE TO ROUTING AND/OR STOP ADJUSTMENTS.**

**STUDENTS SHOULD BE AT THEIR BUS STOP 5 MINUTES PRIOR TO THEIR
SCHEDULED PICK-UP TIME. ALTHOUGH AFTERNOON DROP-OFF TIMES WILL BE
LISTED, THE P.M. SCHEDULES CAN CHANGE SLIGHTLY IN THE FIRST WEEKS OF
SCHOOL AS WE ADJUST TO SCHOOL END-TIME ROUTINES AND ROAD
CONSTRUCTION. YOU WILL NOTICE A MORE
ACCURATE PATTERN OF AFTERNOON BUS DROP-OFF TIMES BEGINNING ABOUT
THE SECOND WEEK OF SCHOOL.**

**PLEASE VISIT OUR TRANSPORTATION PAGE FOR ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY
HAVE ABOUT BUSING.**



Meal Info:
Breakfast and lunch
is free at Bridges. À la
carte
or doubles are extra.

We still encourage all families to fill out the Free/Reduced Meal application. Submitting an application helps benefit families with much more than just meals.



Please create or log into
SchoolCafe
to add money or view menus!

INFINITE CAMPUS ***UPDATES***

HOT NEWS

Student Information Updates

We are gearing up for a successful start to the school year! Part of that planned success depends on great communication and we need your help to make that happen.

We are asking all parents of current students to complete the Annual Update in Infinite Campus for each child before the first day of school.

It is important to update or confirm your information so we can communicate with you about important events including emergencies and school closures.

To start, log into Infinite Campus, click on “More,” then “Online Registration” and follow the prompts.

For assistance, contact Amber Lies at 952-226-0810 or alies@plsas.org



Bridges FYI



Supply Lists

Bridges does not have a required supply list. Many students do use pens, pencils and notebooks! We also welcome donations of school supplies like tissues, hand sanitizer, wipes, pencils, paper, etc!



Driving and Parking at Bridges

Bridges requires all student drivers to fill out a permit form and have parent/ guardians complete a permission questionnaire.

Breakfasts are on campus only (Bridges/Twin Oaks)- **students may not leave school property.**

Students in 10th, 11th and 12th grade may leave campus for lunch with parental and administration's permission and good behavior.

This privilege will be removed if the student begins to encounter issues with attendance, grades or behavior.

Additionally, if this privilege is abused by behaving inappropriately during time away, being tardy upon return or returning under the influence, open lunch will be removed. In addition, further school and/or legal consequences may result.

Students may only leave campus at lunch if they are in 10th-12th grade and have all required permissions.

BRIDGES IS A CLOSED CAMPUS

Bridges is a CLOSED campus other than the lunch exceptions mentioned above. Please make sure your student brings everything into school with them. Due to safety expectations of our district, we do not permit students to go in and out of the building during the day without administrator permission. If you are dropping something off, please drop it off in the front office.

Thank you!



DO YOU NEED IT SUPPORT? USE THIS LINK FOR
FAST AND FRIENDLY SERVICE! QUESTIONS ON
INFINITE CAMPUS, SCHOOLOGY, SCHOOL CAFE,
EMAILS, OR SOMETHING ELSE? CLICK HERE FOR
HELP!



Health Services

PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, WE ASK THAT YOU UPDATE YOUR STUDENT'S HEALTH HISTORY IN INFINITE CAMPUS SO WE ARE ABLE TO ACCURATELY ASSESS YOUR STUDENT IF THEY VISIT THE HEALTH OFFICE.

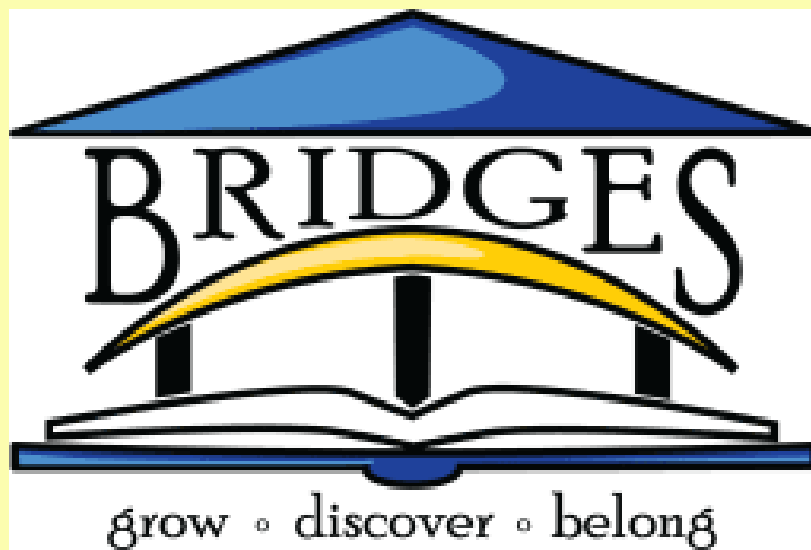
IF YOUR STUDENT REQUIRES MEDICATION (PRESCRIPTION AND/OR OVER-THE-COUNTER) DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, PLEASE COMPLETE THE MEDICATION FORM (SEE SCHOOL NURSE TO PICK UP) AND RETURN IT TO THE HEALTH OFFICE OR MAIN OFFICE AT BRIDGES.

IF YOUR STUDENT HAS A HEALTH CONDITION SUCH AS ALLERGIES, ASTHMA, DIABETES, OR SEIZURES, WE ASK THAT YOU PROVIDE AN UPDATED COPY OF YOUR STUDENT'S PHYSICIAN ORDERED HEALTH PLAN OR EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN.

THESE FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

FORMS, MEDICATION, AND HEALTH SUPPLIES CAN BE BROUGHT TO BRIDGES ON YOUR STUDENT'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

NEED TO SPEAK TO OUR SCHOOL NURSE? MS. WANDER CAN BE REACHED AT 952-226-8682 OR AWANDER@PLSAS.ORG



Paul Donner Bridges Administrator
pdonner@plsas.org 952-226-0843

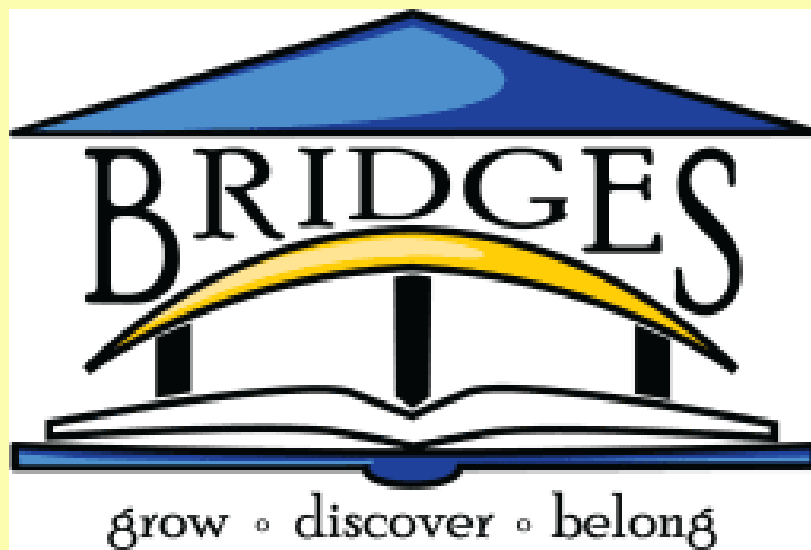
Jennifer Powers, Bridges Administrative Assistant
jpowers@plsas.org 952-226-0840

Sam Wild, School Counselor, Grades 9-10
swild@plsas.org 952-461-7993

Sarah Kortuem, School Counselor, Grades 11-12
skortuem@plsas.org 952-226-0846

Kevin Wagner, Social Worker
kwagner@plsas.org 952-226-0849

Katie Ward, Chemical Health Counselor
kward@plsas.org



**Ms. Nelson: cnelson@plsas.org
Art, Physical Education, Electives**

**Mr. Martin: amartin@plsas.org
Math**

**Ms. Berg: bberg@plsas.org
Special Education**

**Ms. Kowalkoski: jkowalkowski@plsas.org
Special Education**

**Ms. Serefeas: aserefeas@plsas.org
Science and Communications**

**Mr. Bloom: dbloom@plsas.org
Science**

**Mr. Lawson: dlawson@plsas.org
Social Studies**

**Ms. Olson: meolson@plsas.org
Communications**