

# HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY ODYSSEY MAGNET



**SEPTEMBER 2024  
WELCOME BACK!!**



Highlands/Odyssey  
Elementary

Phone: 920-852-5480

Fax: 920-852-5481

[Highlands/Odyssey](#)

[2024-2025](#)

[Parent Handbook](#)



## What's For Breakfast & Lunch



[September Breakfast Menu](#)

[September Lunch Menu](#)



## Free & Reduced Information

Please make sure to fill out a free & reduced application if your family qualifies and return to the school office. By completing the sharing information form, we are able to waive school fees as well. Forms are available [here](#).

## Is your student interested in playing an instrument this year?

**Band:** Students in 5th grade can join band. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Strings:** Students in 4th & 5th grade can join orchestra. Scan the QR code for more information.





## Highlands Elementary School & Odyssey Magnet School

Kari Krueger, Principal  
Michael Dexheimer, Associate Principal

Hello Tigers and Owls!

We have officially kicked off our 2024-25 school year, and it's been a great launch!

Your child's teacher has been designing experiences based on the learning outcomes typically accomplished during the first week of school. These learning experiences have included:

- Getting to know the teacher and classmates
- Teaching academic behaviors and expectations for learning. Example may include:
  - Developing norms for whole group, small group, and independent work
  - Practicing procedures for the hallway, lunchroom, and recess
  - Organizing school materials

Please know these routine and community building experiences will continue into next week as well as an easy start to academics--it is important for us to lay the foundation now so that when the academics pick up, our students are ready!

This week you should receive a **schedule** from your child's homeroom teacher that designates the times of core instructional blocks. We ask you to use this when booking appointments for your children that must occur during the school day in order to avoid the ELA and math blocks if at all possible.

Please remember the importance of **prompt and regular attendance** at school. Being here on time and every day is important in order for your child to learn and grow. Reach out to me if you need support in order to make this happen.

October will be here before we know it, the month of parent teacher conferences. Please use this [link](#) to complete your **conference preference form** by 9/27. It is from this information we will determine the schedule.

It's been a great start to our year, and I can't wait to see the gains we make, together!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kari Krueger  
Principal

# DATES TO REMEMBER



September 6th - No Boys & Girls Club Before and After Care

September 9th - Highlands Spirit Wear Sale Begins

September 16th - PTO Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm (Room 112)

September 16th - Odyssey Grades 4/5 Boot Camp 6:30 pm (LMC)

September 17th - Badger Sports Park Night (PTO) 4:00-8:00 pm

September 30th - No School (Staff Development)

October 4th - No Boys & Girls Club Before and After Care

October 4th - Highlands Spirit Wear Sale Ends

October 5th - Tough Kid Challenge - Register [here](#)

[Highlands/Odyssey Family Calendar](#)

[District Calendar](#)

## Important Yearly Reminders

- School starts at 8:22 am and ends at 3:20 pm. Supervision is available on the playground starting at 8:10 am and ending at 3:30 pm. Please do not drop off your student(s) prior to 8:10 unless they are in Boys & Girls Club. Any students that are not picked up by 3:30 will be sent to the office, and a parent/guardian phone call will be made.
- If your student is going to be absent, late, or has an appointment, call the office to report their absence or enter their absence online via the Parent Portal before 9:00 am. An attendance messenger will go out at 9:15 am each day if an absence is not reported.
- All Highlands & Odyssey students receive free breakfast in the classroom each morning. All Highlands students are also provided free lunch through a grant our school receives.
- Remember to pay your child's school fees for this school year. Fees can be paid online through the Parent Portal with a debit or credit card, or in the office with cash or check.
- Please keep all parent/guardian or emergency contact information up to date throughout the year. Any updates can be made through the Parent Portal.



# Highlands Elementary School & Odyssey Magnet School

Kari Krueger, Principal

Michael Dexheimer, Associate Principal

Dear Highlands Families,

The Appleton Area School District is committed to creating a great place for students to learn, teachers to teach, staff to work, and for parents to send their children to receive a quality education. To build on this commitment, our leaders gather and analyze data on essential goals and measures in order to identify gaps, and take action, thus ensuring our continuous improvement.

In April of last school year, the Family Engagement Survey was administered to all parents/caregivers with a child in the school district in order to assess the level of satisfaction parents have with their child's school. Collecting this feedback allows leaders to recognize the good work that our school leaders, teachers, and staff accomplish every day and to identify areas where we can grow.

Thank you to those that gave their time in sharing their satisfaction. The more feedback we receive, the more we know and can guide our building on the priorities of our community. Our school's top strengths are below, and we couldn't be prouder!

- The staff members at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child
- My child's learning is a high priority at this school.
- My family is treated with respect at this school.

An area for improvement that was communicated was providing feedback about how your child is learning (note, although this item received our lowest score, the score was improved from the previous year). To address these concerns, at Highlands we will continue to:

- Send monthly school/classroom newsletters
- Offer to connect with you for parent teacher conferences either in person or virtually
- Send home iReady diagnostic information (printed) after each testing session
  - This is the assessment our students take three times annually assessing their progress on grade level standards in both Math and Reading.
- Send home math assessments with standards assessed/student performance noted
- Involve parents/guardians earlier in problem solving (academic and behavioral) discussions to increase our collaborative partnership between home and school
- Continue the "got it/grow it" tool we used last year that was attached to a completed piece of work from your student >> *we heard positive feedback about this system and will increase the frequency we send these home as another way of updating you regarding your student's learning.*

For more personalized information about your student's progress, please communicate with your child's classroom teacher.

Sincerely,

Kari Krueger, Principal

## Highlands/Odyssey Picture Day

Tuesday, October 8th is our school picture day with Harmann Studios. On picture day, your student will come home with a proof sheet that includes instructions for online ordering. Click [here](#) for some important reminders and additional details.

Picture Retakes are scheduled for Thursday, November 14th.



## Tri-County Dental Program

Tri-County Dental is offering an oral health program for children at Highlands & Odyssey that **DO NOT HAVE DENTAL INSURANCE**. The program includes: a dental exam, cleaning, x-rays, fillings, fluoride treatments and oral health education.

To sign-up, click the link below and fill out the survey or hard copies of the form are also available in the office.

[Tri-County Dental Online Registration](#)

## Optional Student Accident Insurance

Student Accident Insurance can be purchased through First Agency, Inc. Click the link below for a brochure or visit [www.1stAgency.com](http://www.1stAgency.com) for more information.

[Student Accident Insurance Brochure \(English\)](#)

[Student Accident Insurance Brochure \(Spanish\)](#)



News from the

School Nurse:

[September Newsletter](#)

[Sept. Newsletter - Spanish](#)

[Sept. Newsletter - Hmong](#)

News from the AASD

Birth-Five Outreach Program:

[September Newsletter](#)





# HEALTH GUIDANCE FOR GOING TO SCHOOL

*Showing up to school every day is critical for children's well-being, engagement and learning.*

## MAKE SURE TO SEND CHILDREN TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE:

- Generally healthy and well
- Participating in usual day-to-day activities

## CHILDREN CAN EVEN GO TO SCHOOL IF THEY:

- Have a mild cold, which may include a runny nose and/or cough
- Have eye drainage without fever, eye pain, or eyelid redness
- Have a mild stomachache
- Have lice nits. If live lice are found, the guardian will be instructed to remove live lice after the end of the school day.
  - *Though they are annoying and should be treated, lice are not a reason to exclude a child from school. (This is consistent with the guidance provided by DPI, AAP, CDC, and DHS.)*
- Haven't had a fever for 24 hours and have not taken fever-reducing medicine during that time.

Avoid keeping children at home unless they are too sick to participate. Please see the back of this handout for details. *Note: In most situations, a healthcare provider's note is not needed to return.*



Children may also avoid school due to anxiety. Symptoms may include:

- decreased appetite
- feeling tired
- stomachache
- headache etc.

If you are worried that your child may be suffering from anxiety, talk with your student's Classroom Teacher, the School Nurse, Social Worker, or other School Staff to discuss the challenge and identify what can help your child stay in school.

# REASONS TO KEEP STUDENTS HOME FROM SCHOOL AND WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN BEFORE THEY CAN RETURN

SYMPTOM	WHEN SHOULD YOUR STUDENT STAY HOME?	WHEN CAN YOUR STUDENT RETURN TO SCHOOL?
<b>Fever</b>	They have a fever of 100.0°F (38°C) or higher.	If they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and are feeling better.
<b>Vomiting and/or diarrhea</b>	If they have vomited or have had diarrhea in the last 24 hours. If their stool is watery, they may not make it to the toilet in time.	Once a normal diet is tolerated for 24 hours and they are feeling better.
<b>Cough</b>	If they have a persistent cough with difficulty breathing or with a fever.	Once they are feeling better and any remaining cough is not distracting to themselves or others.
<b>Rash</b>	If a rash has blisters, is draining, is painful, and spreading and or accompanied by a fever it needs to be examined by a health care provider.	Once the rash has no new bumps, has dried, or they have been cleared for return by your health-care provider.
<b>Sore throat</b>	If they have painful swallowing when drinking or eating along with other symptoms such as a fever or rash.	Once they are feeling better. If they were prescribed an antibiotic by your health-care provider, then they can return 24 hours after the first dose, if they are without fever and feeling better.

If you don't know whether to send your child to school or have specific concerns regarding your child's health, contact your child's Healthcare Provider, local urgent care, or the School Nurse.

If your child has a compromised immune system or is at high risk for complications from common illnesses, please talk to your School Nurse about developing a plan with you and your child's Healthcare Provider to keep your child healthy and safe while attending school.

*Information included was collected from Attendance Works, Kaiser Permanente, and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN).*



# HIGHLANDS ODYSSEY PTO BADGER BASH!

September 17th, 2024 from 4:00 - 8:00

**2 HOUR UTOPIA: \$12 + TAX**  
**3 HOUR UTOPIA: \$15 + TAX**

A PORTION OF CARD SALES GO BACK TO GROUP  
CALL AHEAD FOR LASER TAG RESERVATIONS

OUTDOOR ATTRACTIONS ARE WEATHER PERMITTING

*Fun for the whole family!*

3600 E Evergreen Dr, Appleton, WI  
920-830-6900  
badgersportspark.com

*Includes:*  
LASER TAG (AGES 7+)  
MINI BOWLING,  
INFLATABLES (AGES 2-10)  
ALL NON-TICKET ARCADE GAMES  
GO-KARTS  
MINI GOLF  
BATTING CAGES

**Badger**  
FAMILY FUN CENTER

## EARN CASH FOR SCHOOLS WITH BOX TOPS

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

For over 25 years, Box Tops for Education has given families an easy way to earn for schools with products they already buy. Today, you can find thousands of participating products throughout the store – and all you need is the Box Tops app.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



**BUY**  
BOX TOPS  
PRODUCTS

Earn for schools with the brands you love.



**SCAN**  
YOUR  
RECEIPT

Use the Box Tops app to submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



**EARN**  
CASH FOR  
SCHOOLS

Box Tops products are identified and earnings are credited online.



#### ONLINE SHOPPERS CAN EARN WITH BOX TOPS, TOO!

Whether you order groceries for delivery or pickup, shop through your store's app, or request an email receipt at checkout, you can earn for your school no matter where you shop.

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT  
THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfec.com)

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS  
APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:



HIGHLANDS SPIRIT WEAR  
SALE STARTS SEPTEMBER  
9TH AND GOES  
THROUGH OCTOBER 4TH

An order form will be  
available soon!

**PTO**  
**Meeting**

**When: Monday, September 16th**

**Where: Room 112**

**Time: 6:00-7:00 pm**


**All are welcome!**



# HIGHLANDS & ODYSSEY

# PTO

NO  
COST  
TO  
YOU!

 Facebook: [Highlands/Odyssey Elementary PTO](https://www.facebook.com/Highlands/OdysseyElementaryPTO)

President - Abbie Selig, ablerabigail@yahoo.com ~ Vice President - Niki Kuhn, nengel@new.rr.com

Treasurer- Tracy Johnston, johnston.t13@gmail.com ~ Secretary - Nikole Timas, nikoletimas@gmail.com

## Who We Are



- Parents
- Teachers
- Administrators
- Grandparents
- Community Members
- Hopefully you!
- All are welcome

## What We Do

### School-wide Events

- Badger Sports Park
- Movie Night
- Fun Run
- Goodies with Grownups
- Book Fairs

### Fund Enriching Ideas

- Teacher grants
- Special Events
- Girls on the Run

### Staff Appreciation

- Monthly gifts
- Conference dinners
- Teacher appreciation week



## How You Can Help



### JOIN

Facebook group ◦ Meetings - come once or come to all, you're welcome ◦ No fees

### DONATE

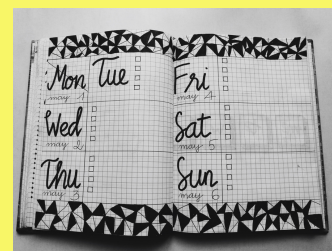
All you give through direct donation or fundraisers goes into programs and services for our kids! Just drop a check written to Highlands & Odyssey PTO at the office!

### VOLUNTEER

Even just a half hour of your time can make a big difference. Bring a friend and make new friends!

## 2024-2025 PTO Meetings (held in LMC)

- September 16 - 6:00pm
- October 7 - 3:45pm
- November 4 - 6:00pm
- December - no meeting
- January 6 - 3:45pm
- February 3 - 6:00pm
- March 10 - 3:45pm
- April 7 - 6:00pm
- May 5 - 3:45pm










## Please follow these guidelines for dropping off and picking up your student(s):

- You may park in any of the areas on the map shown in **blue**. Remind your student to use the crosswalks and crossing guards when crossing the street and to cross with caution.
- Please **do not park** in areas marked in **red** or **yellow** as they are designated no parking zones or bus zones.
- Areas marked with **blue dashed lines** are designated hug n' go zones. Cars should pull over, students should exit on the passenger side, and the car should exit the area. **Cars should not be in this area for longer than one minute** and cars should never be parked or left unattended.
- **Please note that the canopy doors (Main Entrance) are for students/families with disabilities only and cabs; a parking pass is needed for this area. We have barricades up starting at 8:10 in the morning until the bell rings, and after school until 3:30. Only vehicles with parking passes will be allowed to enter during these times.**

### Parent Parking Procedures

#### Highlands Elementary School

-  Bus Loading Area
-  Parent Pick-up/Drop-off
-  Parent/General Parking
-  Staff Parking
-  No Parking
-  Bike Rack
-  Crossing Guard

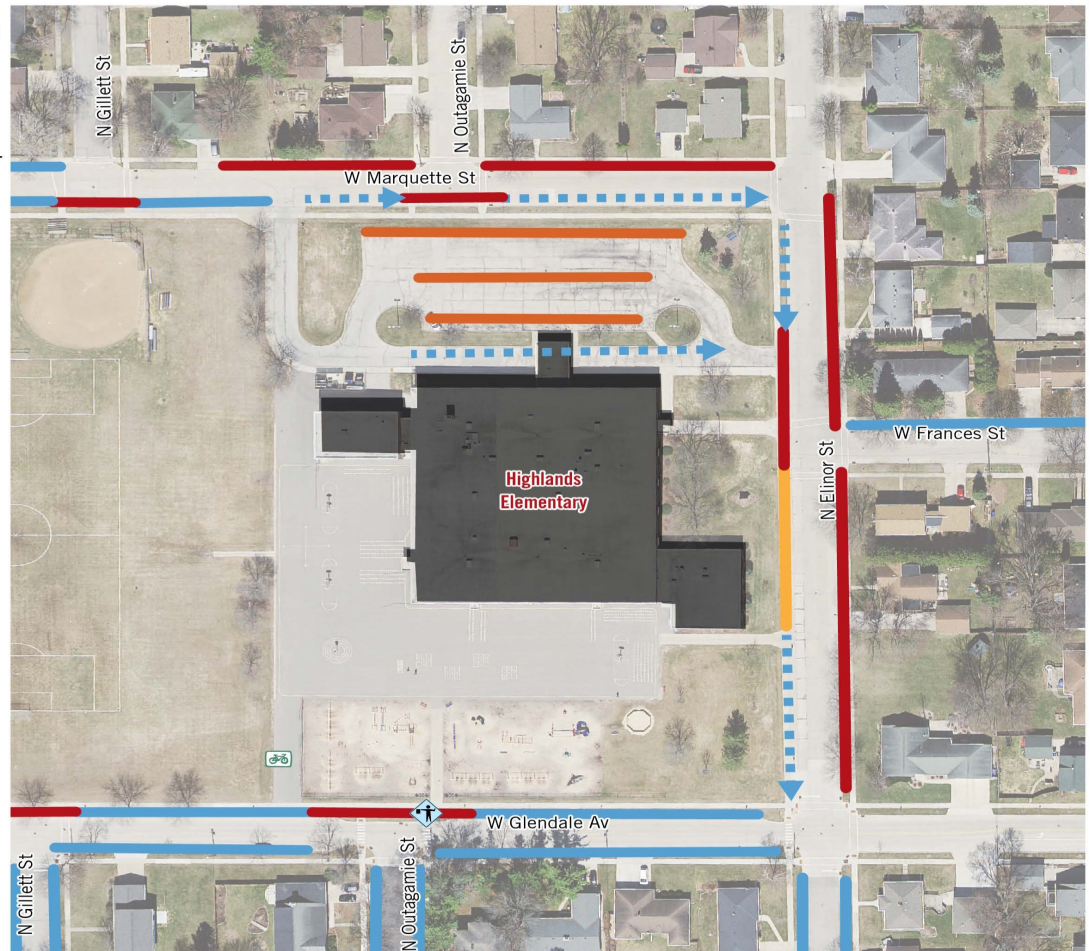


0 100 200  
Feet

Source:  
Base data/imagery provided by Outagamie County 2021.  
SRTS data provided by ECWRPC 2023.

This data was created for use by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Geographic Information System. Any other use/application of this information is the responsibility of the user and such use/application is at their own risk. East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission disclaims all liability regarding fitness of the information for any use other than for East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission business.

PREPARED AUGUST 2023 BY:



## Safe Routes to School Information & Map

- Click [here](#) for a letter from the Appleton Police Department & Department of Public Works with helpful information on how to get your elementary kids safely to and from school.
- Click [here](#) for a Safe Routes to School walking map for Highlands Elementary.



## Highlands Elementary School & Odyssey Magnet School

Kari Krueger, Principal

Michael Dexheimer, Associate Principal

Highlands/Odyssey Families,

I am excited to announce that the *walking* school bus is back for the 2024-25 school year!

### About the Walking School Bus:

~Staff members from Highlands will walk to an area near school and pick up students.

~Staff will have clearly marked vests.

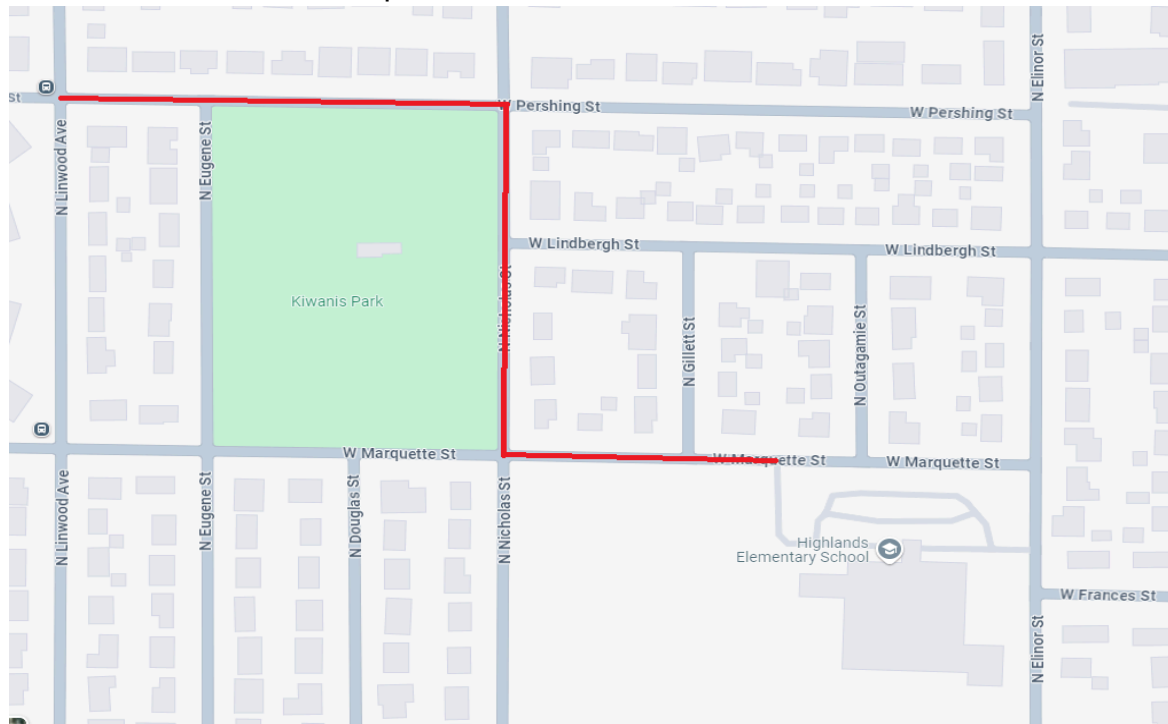
~Parents will receive a permission form to complete in order to “ride” the bus during pick up the first few days.

~**Walking School Bus will run on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.**

~The route will start on the corner of Pershing and Linwood at 8 a.m.

~**The first day for Walking School Bus will be Monday September 9th.**

~Bus routes will follow the path shown below.



If you live in an area that isn't near the pick up route, please reach out and we can hopefully add more routes.

Thank you,

Mike Dexheimer

Associate Principal

dexheimermicha@asd.k12.wi.us

Girls on the Run provides

**POWER, PURPOSE  
AND POTENTIAL**

**Mondays & Wednesdays  
3:30-5:00**

**Sept. 16 - Nov. 21  
Celebration 5K on  
Saturday, Nov. 16**

**Registration  
opens:  
August 5th,  
2024**

[www.girlsontherunnew.org](http://www.girlsontherunnew.org)

**OPEN TO ALL  
3RD - 5TH  
GRADE GIRLS! SCAN TO  
REGISTER**



**Girls** on  
the **run**<sup>®</sup>

**QUESTIONS?**

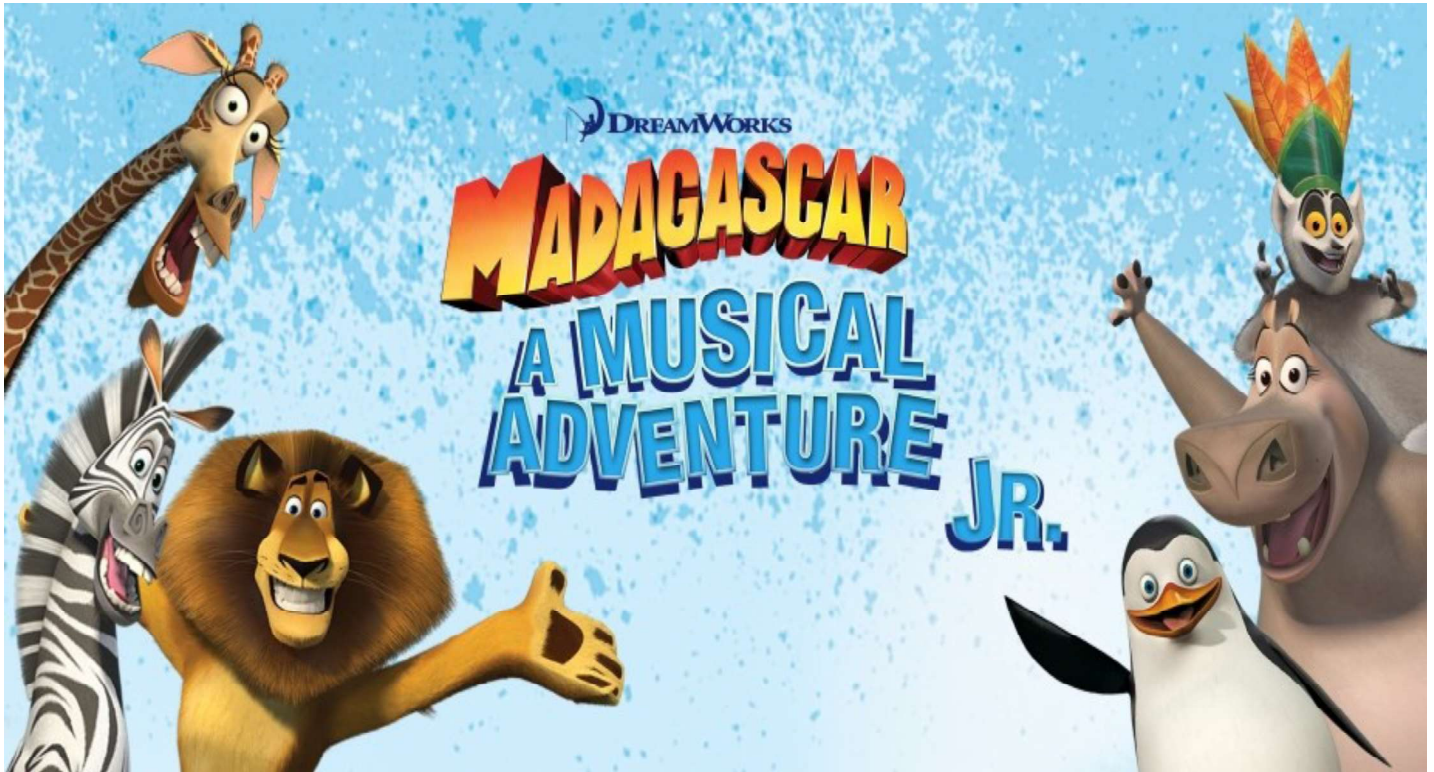
**Contact:**

**Charle Pennebecker  
pennebeckercha@aasd.k12.wi.us**



## Our 22nd Season!!

Acting classes for ages 5-12  
with showcase performance.



**Weekly Classes: Sept. 23-Jan. 16**

**MADAGASCAR Showcase: Jan. 18/19**



## REGISTER NOW!

[WWW.KIDSTAGE.NET](http://WWW.KIDSTAGE.NET)

[KIDSTAGE@YAHOO.COM](mailto:KIDSTAGE@YAHOO.COM)

920-915-0044

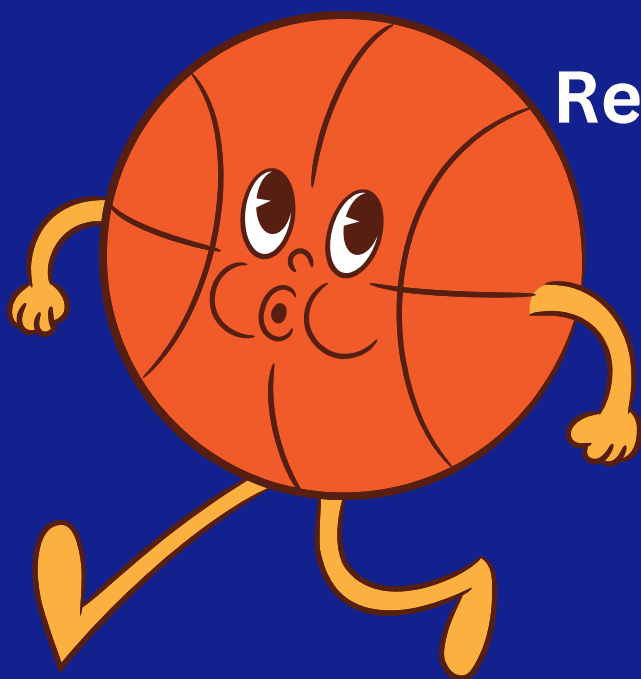


2024-  
2025

# AWYBA BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Sign up soon!

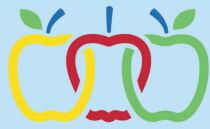
Registration closes Sept. 15



Scan QR  
code to  
register

[AWYBA.com](http://AWYBA.com)

Follow us on Facebook



APPLETON AREA  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

AGES  
5-13

\$15

AFTER 9/27  
\$20

# FOX VALLEY TOUGH KID Challenge

REGISTRATION



OCTOBER 5TH

9 A.M. - 1 P.M.



HIGHLANDS ELEMENTARY  
2037 N ELINOR ST.

FOX VALLEY TOUGH KID CHALLENGE (TKC) IS AN OBSTACLE COURSE EVENT AND FUNDRAISER FOR THE APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FEATURING KID-FRIENDLY YET CHALLENGING OBSTACLES.

THE 1.55-MILE COURSE AND 30 OBSTACLES CHALLENGE THE AGILITY AND STRENGTH OF OUR PARTICIPANTS. THIS YEAR THE COURSE HAS A FEW NEW TWISTS AND TURNS!





# JOIN OUR TEAM



NOW HIRING  
KITCHEN STAFF!

GREAT TEAM MEMBERS/GREAT CUSTOMERS/GREAT HOURS



chartwells   
serving up happy & healthy



SCAN TO  
SEE OPEN  
POSITIONS  
& APPLY  
TODAY!

