

## **ST. MICHAEL-ALBERTVILLE SCHOOLS** EXCELLENCE IS OUR TRADITION

# **KNIGHT VIEW**

## WE ARE STMA!

Welcome to 2024-2025! We're excited for the opportunities ahead. Our goal: a safe environment where students thrive, build positive self-worth, and develop lifelong skills.

Our mission is clear: empower students to be self-directed learners, effective communicators, and responsible citizens. Through academics, arts, activities, and athletics, we educate the whole student. Our core values-putting students first, cultivating strong relationships, maintaining integrity, and promoting kindness-are at the heart of everything we do.

STMA isn't just a district; it's a thriving community of extraordinary staff, engaged students, supportive families, and a generous community working together to build an environment where every student can succeed and foster a lifelong love of learning. But who are we, really?



#### **STAFFING PROFILE\***

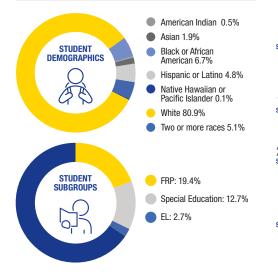
342.5 Teachers

180.8 Other staff, including non-licensed staff 99 Paraprofessionals

- 98.4 Other licensed professionals
- 21 Administrators
- \*Source: Minnesota Dept of Ed

#### STUDENT NUMBERS

- 606 Grade 11 students (largest grade)
- 593 Class of 2025
- 431 Class of 2037 (kindergarten)





## Total Enrollment Pre-K to age 22 = 6,984

Albertville Primary School 695 Grades Preschool (264) + kindergarten (431) STUDENTS

SpecEd Center Based Program: Quest

#### **Big Woods Elementary**



#### 67 **Fieldstone Elementary**

587 Grades 1-4 SpecEd Center Based Program: Journeys

#### St. Michael Elementary

Grades 1-4 653 SpecEd Center Based Program: STUDENTS Stepping Stones

#### **STMA Middle School East**



SpecEd Center Based Program: Pathways II, Bridges

#### **STMA Middle School West**

1086 Grades 5-8 SpecEd Center Based Program: RISE

#### STMA High School

Grades 9-12 2235 SpecEd Center Based Program: Connections, EBD

#### $\odot$ **Knights Academy** Grades 9-12 30 STUDENTS Alternative Learning Program

Located in the Community Education Building



#### Grades 7-12

**STUDENTS** Comprehensive Program (all classes online): 59 students Supplemental Program (up to 50% of classes online): 252 students

#### Wings Program



Transition program for students age 18-22 who need more time to complete the requirements for a high school diploma or learn the skills necessary for employment and adulthood; located at Community Education Building

#### **Community Education**



This Fall, community education offered over 960 courses, impacting both adults and youth in our community.



Home Languages

Spoken By Our Students

## 78



### 1,069,642 meals



Number of meals the School Nutrition Department served (breakfast and lunch) during the 2023-24 school year! All students receive one free breakfast and lunch each day.

As we begin this new school year, we are truly grateful for your continued trust and support. By joining forces, we can create a year filled with growth, success, and achievement for every learner, setting the stage for their bright futures. Let's face the months ahead with positivity, kindness, and optimism, confident that our united efforts will shape a better tomorrow. Join us on this journey with open hearts, ready to guide our students and tackle any challenges together. The bus is ready, fueled with positivity, and there's room for everyone! Together, we'll navigate our learners toward an amazing year. Who are we? We Are STMA! #knightspride #wearestma

## **SCHOOL NEWS**

#### ALBERTVILLE PRIMARY



A picture of our new playground equipment. Purchased with past fundraiser donations.

Welcome to preschool and kindergarten at Albertville Primary! This fall we welcomed over 695 students to our building! We want to thank our families for your patience, partnership, and support at the start of this school year. We also want to thank our kindergarten families for supporting our fall fundraiser. Here's to a great year!

#### **BIG WOODS ELEMENTARY**

Big Woods welcomed 659 students this fall. The school was filled with laughter and excitement. Thank you for partnering with us to serve these amazing students. We also want to thank each of you for your support through our PTO fundraisers. Together, we were able to add an additional swing to our playground. What incredible support we have at Big Woods Elementary School.

#### FIELDSTONE ELEMENTARY



Fieldstone Elementary is excited to welcome nearly 600 students this fall! Our dedicated and talented staff are ready for an awesome year ahead! We are looking forward to partnering with our families to help our students excel!



#### ST. MICHAEL ELEMENTARY

St. Michael Elementary welcomed 653 students through the doors on the first day of school. Thank you to all who attended our Orientation Days, as we had 98% of families attend. Thank you to our PTO and families for contributing to our fundraisers, as we were able to add swings and a new structure to our playground. We are grateful to have such a supportive community at STME!





STMA must annually provide parents and guardians with important information about district policies, special benefits, and eligibility. These Annual Notices are accessible on the district's website, and we encourage all parents and guardians to review them.



#### MIDDLE SCHOOL WEST 2024-25 8th Grade WEB Leaders

The WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Program is a great initiative to help incoming 5th graders transition smoothly into their new school environment. WEB Leaders play a crucial role in making sure the new students feel welcomed and are supported.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL EAST

Middle School East is grateful for their Knight's Ambassadors and WEB Leaders who welcomed our new students to the building! We're excited to be off to a great start to the school year!



#### **HIGH SCHOOL**

We are committed to fostering self-directed learners, effective communicators, and active, responsible, and respectful community members. Our year began with a smooth transition for ninth-graders, dedicating their first high school day to them. Students participated in Youth Frontiers retreats to foster student connections and reinforce the foundational principles of our school culture centered around respect.



A picture of our KA students team building.

#### **KNIGHTS ACADEMY**

At KA we put relationships first. Every first day of school we spend the first half of the day doing teambuilding activities that our advisors come up with and our students participate in. It was so much fun to see our students start the year off building these relationships with fellow students and staff.



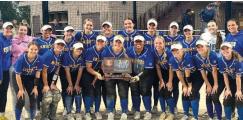
#### **QUESTIONS?**

If you have questions about anything you read in this newsletter, please call us at 763-497-3180!

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES



Newsies selected to participate at Spotlight Showcase



STMA Softball State Consolation Champions

#### ADAPTIVE BOWLING STATE CHAMP

Junior **Ashley Arroyo Flores** was the girls' singles State Champion in the ASD Division at the State Adaptive Bowling

meet in May! Congrats Ashley and we are excited to have you back this year!



#### MUSICAL AT SPOTLIGHT SHOWCASE

The STMA Musical from last year, *Newsies*, was selected to participate in the Spotlight Showcase hosted by Hennepin Theater Trust on June 10. This year's musical,

#### Beauty and the Beast, will be November 7-10. Be sure to check out the show!

#### SOFTBALL ADVANCES TO STATE

The STMA Softball team won Section 8AAAA and competed in the State Tournament at Caswell Park in Mankato. The team went 2-1 in the State Tournament and won the Consolation Championship. Great job players and coaches!

#### GIRLS TRACK & FIELD INDIVIDUAL STATE CHAMPIONS

Gabby Keefer, Jackie Bergeron, Claire Kvant, and Emma Kvant were the State Champions in the 4 X 200 Meter Relay and Emma Kvant was the State Champion in the 400 Meter

Dash at the State Track & Field meet held at STMA in June. Great job by all four runners!



**MUSIC DEPARTMENT** The first concerts of the year for the STMA Band and Choir programs will be October 21 in the High School PAC. Be sure to check out these amazing programs.

#### **FALL ACTIVITIES**

Fall Sports began on August 12 with just over 550 students registered to participate. Students in the Fall Musical, Debate and Adaptive Activities began early in September. It is great to see so many students getting involved.

#### **SENIOR CITIZENS**

Any St. Michael or Albertville residents who are age 65 and over can pick up a free yearly activity pass by stopping in the Activities Office or the District Office at Middle School West during school hours. Please bring proof of residency.

### **STAFF NEWS**



#### **STMA Celebrates Service**

This year, at the All-Staff Development Day on August 29, STMA recognized 25 staff who represented over 640 years of service to the STMA School District including 4 certified staff with 35 years of service.

Lisa Gibson

4th grade Teacher at Fieldstone Elementary

#### **Ruth Haugen**

5th grade Teacher at Middle School East

#### Lisa Sulkaski 2nd grade Teacher at Big Woods Elementary

Laurel Wiese

Kindergarten Teacher at Albertville Primary

A special thank you to these amazing staff!



#### STMA Recognizes World-Class Staff Who Serve Our Students

The STMA Special Education Advisory Council recognized several STMA teachers and staff with its Noble Knight Awards designed to celebrate staff that are leading special education learning for STMA students.

**Cassandra Rule** - Middle School West teacher was awarded the Silver Shield Award for exceeding expectations and striving for the best academic, physical, social and emotional outcomes for all students.

**Gavin Duncanson** - Fieldstone, 2nd grade teacher was awarded the Golden Knight Award for providing all students with academic opportunities regardless of any student learning differences. **Ellen Lynch** - St. Michael Elementary paraprofessional was awarded the Platinum Armor Award celebrating support staff who assist students receiving special education services successfully reach their goals.

Akamai Tammy Cornillez - High School Volleyball Coach, was awarded the Champion of Inclusivity Award for advancing the participation of differing-abled athletes, placing the focus on improving individual athletic abilities and teamwork.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

#### SUMMER 2024 WRAP UP

This summer was a tremendous success for our Community Education programs! With over 5,500 enrollments and 450 classes offered, we were able to provide a wide range of enriching experiences across the district. From youth sports to arts, academics, and more, our diverse programs brought the community together in a positive and engaging way. A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated coaches, volunteers, and staff whose hard work and passion made this summer possible. Your commitment ensured that we could offer meaningful opportunities for everyone involved.

#### **INSTRUCTORS WANTED!**

Do you have a passion for technology, cooking, music, or other talents? Community Education seeks individuals like you to share your skills with children or adults. Any age or skill level is welcome and no prerequisite to teaching needed. We're seeking creative ideas and energetic people to teach a class after school or in the evening. Contact Amber Sundal at **ambersu@mystma.org**.

#### **NEW** ADULT PROGRAMS

STMA Community Education is launching exciting new adult programs! We're introducing classes like adult painting, virtual cooking courses, jewelry making, swimming, and more! Be sure to check out our fitness offerings too,



including Early Bird Interval Training, Dance Fitness, Personal Training, Cardio Mix, and more!

#### YOUTH ENRICHMENT HAPPENINGS

Fall Enrichment programs are now open for registration! Classes are filling up quickly, so don't miss out on exciting opportunities for your student. This fall, we're introducing new programs like Young Yogis, STMA Boho Blanket Making, Beginner African Music, and more! Plus, we'll be offering themed enrichment classes on Saturdays for ages 2-5!

#### PEACHJAR, THE ELECTRONIC BACKPACK

Our school district uses the electronic flyer communication tool called PEACHJAR. To view school-approved digital flyers, simply click the Peachjar button on your child's school website homepage. This green initiative will save our schools paper and reduce copy costs. If you have any questions please contact us at 763-497-6550 ext 7.

#### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION IS HIRING!**

Kids Play is hiring for our after-school childcare program. To see all Kids Play opportunities, visit the employment tab on the district website.

#### THE ACTIVITY CENTER IS ALSO HIRING!

Contact Colin Downs Recreation Coordinator at **colind@mystma.org** more information on activity center opportunities.

#### **NEW RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

STMA and 360 Sports Camps are teaming up to provide new fun and



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #885 11343 50TH STREET NE, ALBERTVILLE MN 55301 763-497-6500

WWW.STMA.K12.MN.US

exciting events on your days off from school! Check out our new 3v3 hoops skills and 7v7 football skills classes! We are also continuing our partnership with Dash Sports to provide some more T-ball and Fall basketball classes for ages 2-8!

Ski Club signup open for all schools. Register by Nov 12, 3 pm. Spots limited!

## ECFE: EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

ECFE is a program for families with children ages birth to five! We have numerous classes and special events that promote early literacy skills, parent discussions, gross motor, child development, and more! Children will experience developmentally appropriate lessons and parents will find support and camaraderie. Join us at the Community Education Center! Please send questions to Coordinator Shonna Hoeper at **shonnah@mystma.org**.

#### **BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL**

There are openings in the three-yearold and four-year-old preschool classes for children. The three-year-olds will engage in play-based pre-academic and fine motor activities that foster a love of learning. The four-year-olds will practice school readiness skills, make new friends, and work on the transition process to kindergarten. For more information about openings, contact Coordinator Shonna Hoeper at **shonnah@mystma.org**.

#### FACILITY RENTALS

To rent district facility space, contact Jim Mauss, **jimm@mystma.org**.

Carrier Rt. Pre-Sort Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage / PAID St. Michael, MN 55376 Permit No. 5