



Here's the Scoop

News and Events

October 2024



Quick Links:

- [District Website](#)
- [HRE Homepage](#)
- [Levy 2024 Facts](#)
- [Lunch Menu](#)
- [PTC Website](#)

Inside:

- Attendance
- Picture Day
- Unity Day
- Fun with the PTC

Important Dates:

- **Oct. 1** - Picture Day
- **Oct. 2** - 2-Hour Early Release at 1:50 pm
- **Oct. 16-18** - No School, MEA
- **Oct. 23** - All School STEM Day
- **Nov. 7** - 2-Hour Early Release at 1:50 pm
- **Nov. 19, 21, 25** - Parent Conferences
- **Nov. 27-29** - No School, Thanksgiving Break
- **Dec. 2 - 6** - 5th Grade to Wolf Ridge ELC

A Note from Mr. F.

The first month of school is nearly over. It's hard to believe we've already had 17 days of school. Time certainly does fly!

You may have noticed more emails and text messages from us than usual. With the loss of Seesaw due to budget cuts, email has become our main mode of communication; we are reserving text messaging for more timely items. Overall, our intent is to make sure you are informed about two significant items in our school.

The first item we want to make sure families are informed about is the upcoming operating levy referendum. The information is meant to help our families make decisions at the voting booth on November 5. You can learn more about the referendum on the [PLSAS website](#).

(Continued on Page 2)

Yearbook Cover Contest
Deadline is October 15.
[Click here for details.](#)
More info to come in Art Class!



Get the Facts

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools | Operating Levy

What's On The November 5 Ballot?

The funds generated by the proposed operating levy will significantly impact the opportunities we can provide to students. If the operating levy is approved, the district would be able to:

- Enhance academic excellence that increases student performance and outcomes
- Increase staffing for behavior intervention and student support
- Expand career pathway programs and
- Strengthen safety and security at all schools

If the operating levy is not approved, the district is projected to have a budget shortfall in the 2025-2026 school year and beyond. It will be necessary to make significant budget reductions, which are likely to include:

- Closing one or more elementary schools resulting in boundary changes
- Increasing class sizes
- Staff reductions
- Reducing student programs, and more

The budget challenges currently facing the district would continue.

Look for more information on the district's website,
www.plsas.org/referendum

Vote Early

In Person

- All Scott County voters can vote absentee at Scott County Public Works, 600 Country Trail East, Jordan, MN 55352
- City residents may vote at their local City Hall
- Township voters must vote at Scott County Public Works; Spring Lake Township voters may also vote at Prior Lake City Hall
- For more details, [click here](#)

By Mail

- Request yours at mnvotes.gov
- Once received, complete your ballot and return it using the envelope provided.
- Be sure to allow enough time for the whole process so that the ballot is received by Election Day, Nov. 5

Join the Legacy Book Club at HRE!

We're thrilled to invite families to contribute to our library by donating a book. This is a wonderful way to celebrate special occasions, honor loved ones, or simply share the joy of reading!

To participate, please visit our Amazon wish list or Red Balloon Bookshop wish list linked below. Your generous gift will enhance our library for years to come! Don't forget to select the GIFT OPTION at checkout so we can express our gratitude! Thank you for supporting Hamilton Ridge!

[Amazon Wish List](#)

[Red Balloon Bookshop Wish List](#)

A Note from Mr. Fredrickson (Continued from Page 1)

The second is the PTC Walk-a-thon fundraiser. The PTC relies on donations from families and friends to fund community events such as movie nights, Spring Fling, Donuts with Grownups and so on. These funds also contribute to classroom activities and support our teachers with teaching materials. PTC funds also support larger items like playground equipment and our dreams of an outdoor learning center.

In November we will be streamlining our communication structures so fewer school-wide emails are getting into your inbox. As always, prioritize reading emails from your child's teacher, and as much as possible, please stay informed of what is happening in our school community also.

Your partner in education,
Mr. Fredrickson

Fall Picture Day is October 1

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools partners with Lifetouch for school portraits. All students will get their picture taken. If your child is absent, retake day is November 5 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

3 ways to order:

- Pre-order with **Picture Day ID EVTRKPSN8** up to Picture Day at mylifetouch.com
- Send payment in the Lifetouch envelope on picture day (envelope to come soon!)
- Wait for the proof to order and have pictures sent directly to your home (you may be charged shipping on orders under \$45)



Unity Day - Wear and Share Orange

We invite students and staff to wear and share orange for kindness, acceptance and inclusion on Tuesday, October 15. This year October 16 (the proclaimed Unity Day) is a no-school and staff in-service day.

Reaching Our Communities Kids (ROCK)

ROCK partners with Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools to offer a free supply of food for kids over the weekend and extended breaks. ROCK also supports families in other ways throughout the school year. If a family who chooses to participate, their child will receive a weekly Power Pack filled with 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 snacks, 1 fruit, 1 vegetable. The Power Pack will be non-descriptive, so confidentiality will be maintained. Please contact School Social Worker, Andrea Carin, at 952-461-7810 or at acarine@plsas.org to sign up for the program or ask any questions.

To volunteer or donate to [ROCK](#) please visit their website!



Supporting Families = Supporting Kids

Anxiety at school can be hard for kids and parents. It is often difficult to notice and may seem confusing. If your child is experiencing school anxiety and needs additional support, please reach out to your child's teacher, contact our Dean of Student, Kristin Stier (952.461.7809) or School Social Worker, Andrea Carin (952.461.7810).

Here are some ways to help with school anxiety:

1. Preparing for school: set up routines for homework, dinner time, bedtime, laying out clothes and getting backpack ready the night before, and mornings
2. Setting up playdates: arrange playdates with friends from their class or school
3. Validating concerns: acknowledge that starting school can be hard, but will get easier and will be fun
4. Encourage positive self-talk: help your child replace negative thoughts with positive ones, and remind them of past successes
5. Staying positive: focus on the fun things about school, like seeing friends and learning new things
6. Setting realistic expectations: remind your child that it's okay to make mistakes, and focus on effort and learning
7. Communicate with teachers: maintain open communication with your child's teacher and school staff



Climb the Ridge Fundraiser: Our goal is to **raise \$30,000** to support the amazing work being done at Hamilton Ridge.

We would like to build out our outdoor learning space as well as continue to host family fun events, provide ESTEM materials, purchase additional playground equipment, and fund teacher and school requests!

- Please register your child if you have not already. Our goal is to have every student register!

PTC meeting is on October 1 @ the High School in the health room. We will have a joint meeting with all elementary PTCs from 6:00-7:00. Our HRE PTC will then break out and have our meeting from 7:00-8:00. [Facebook Event](#)

Restaurant Nights:

October 7 from 4-9 at Culver's in Savage: [Facebook Event](#)

Please sign up to be a food runner during our event

October 23 from 7 am-2 pm at Edelweiss: [Facebook Event](#)

Donuts with Grownups Schedule:

Kindergarten: October 4th

1st Grade: November 1

2nd Grade: December 6

3rd Grade: January 10

4th Grade: February 7

5th Grade: March 7

Stay up to date: If you want to stay up to date with what is happening, you can follow the [PTC Facebook page](#), and check out the [meeting calendar](#), or the [events calendar](#).



**MAKE YOUR
Meal Matter**

October 7th 4pm- 7pm

Join us in supporting
as 10% of all sales will be donated to:

Hamilton Ridge Elementary

Contact Us:

School Hours 9:20 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.

Attendance Line 952-461-7801

Main Office 952-461-7800 **Fax:** 952-461-7849

Health Office 952-461-7806, Tiffany St. Michaels, LPN tstmichaels@plsas.org

Sam Fredrickson, Principal 952-461-7803 sfredrickson@plsas.org

Kristin Stier, Dean of Students 952-461-7809 kstier@plsas.org

Kirsten Schoeller, Lead Administrative Assistant kschoeller@plsas.org

Sheri Reis, Administrative Assistant, Attendance & Finance sreis@plsas.org

Prior Lake Bus Company (after hours) 952-440-1166



As the Hamilton Ridge staff, we believe

... in providing a safe environment where
everyone belongs

... in building and nurturing strong relationships

... that we are always learning

... that we are better together

... that all our students are all our students

... in having fun

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

24-25 NO SCHOOL DAYS:

*October 2 (EARLY RELEASE)

October 16 - 18

*November 7 (EARLY RELEASE)

November 8

November 27 - 29

*December 4 (EARLY RELEASE)

December 23 - January 1

*January 8 (EARLY RELEASE)

January 20

January 24

*February 5 (EARLY RELEASE)

February 17

*March 5 (EARLY RELEASE)

March 28

March 31 - April 4

*April 9 (EARLY RELEASE)

*May 7 (EARLY RELEASE)

May 26

*June 4 (EARLY RELEASE)

24-25 ELEMENTARY

CONFERENCES:

November 19, 21, 25

February 11, 13, 20



Tips to help get your child to school on time, every day:

1. Set attendance goals with your child and track your child's attendance on a calendar.
2. Help your child get a good night's sleep.
3. Prep the night before to streamline your morning.
4. Try to schedule dental or medical appointments before or after school hours.
5. Schedule extended trips during school breaks.
6. Don't have your child stay home unless they are truly sick.
7. If your child is saying they don't want to go to school, please notify your child's teacher.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

- Illness (10 days)
- Doctor/Dental
- Funeral
- Religious Holiday
- Vacation (5 days)

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

- Missed bus
- Overslept
- Didn't want to come
- Sporting events



Absences add up!
Missing just 2 days a
month means a child
misses 10% of the
school year.

**REMEMBER TO CALL
THE ATTENDANCE LINE**

952-461-7801