

# Pilot School News

October 11, 2024 | Volume #3



*There is no “normal” way to grieve. Except for how we each do it. Author Unknown.*

The Murray team and I are still in shock over the news we received about our colleague and friend. I am normally not one that is short on things to say, but at this time I don't feel it would be appropriate for me to fill this cover page with paragraphs of information as I am going through my grieving process. My ask is that we each take a moment to gather the memories of Ms. Samia Al-Ahad and reflect on the relationship we each may have had with her and the impact she had on those at Murray and those throughout the city of Saint Paul and beyond. She will be dearly missed. Our Murray community appreciates the messages and the offers of support as we navigate this terrible loss.

## UPCOMING EVENTS >>>

**October 15, 2024**

Family/Teacher Conferences  
4:00pm – 7:00pm

**October 17-18, 2024**

No School – State-wide Teacher Meetings

**October 30, 2024**

Picture Retakes

**November 4, 2024**

Murray PACT Meeting  
5:00pm – 6:30pm

**November 7, 2024**

End of First Quarter

**November 8, 2024**

No School – Professional Day

**November 12, 2024**

Murray PTO Meeting  
6:00pm – 7:15pm

**November 28-29, 2024**

No School – Thanksgiving Break

## Celebrations:

**#Pilotprops** of the week! Ms. Nalepka would like to celebrate Max Jones. Max is doing a great job in Algebra! His participation in class and his success every day is amazing!

**#Pilotprops** of the week! Ms. Dooley would like to celebrate Piper Williamson for overall great teamwork and participation in building Life Science Knowledge. Way to go Piper!

**#Pilotprops** of the week! Ms. Dooley would like to celebrate Jonathan Sauer for perseverance in Life Science class, and always giving it his all, even through injuries.

Your Co-Pilot,

Jamin McKenzie  
Principal, Murray Middle School

## Athletics

Winter Sports: Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, & Wrestling

Registration opens Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>!

Please register on RSchool  
[rSchool Today registration form link](#)

## Picture Day

•School Pictures are Ready!

View and order at  
<https://shop.jostenspix.com/login>

- MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL
- Event Code: FE202524

## Spiritweek

October 14<sup>th</sup> – Pajama Day, October 15<sup>th</sup> – Pink Out, October 16<sup>th</sup> – School Dance

[Murray Middle Dance - Class Registration v3.0 - Saint Paul Public Schools \(rschooltoday.com\)](#)

## Sixth Grade

### **Science with Mr. Chase:**

In 6th grade we've been working on lab skills and how to use the equipment safely and keeping our lab space clean. Our goal is to have students working together to drive their science thinking forward in a safe, respectful, and responsible way.



## Seventh Grade

### **Science with Ms. Dooley:**

The Life Science students are continuing their studies of chemical reactions. They have already used investigations to find the active ingredients in bath bombs and are now figuring out the gas in the bubbles. They are learning general science concepts such as using properties of matter to determine substances, density, and conservation of mass.

### **Social Studies with Ms. Newman and Ms. Pfeiffer:**

In American Studies, 7th graders have begun thinking and doing the work of historians. We have been focusing on what history is, why it is important, and which stories are being told. Currently, we are studying the US Civil War and exploring multiple perspectives as we learn.

Our goals for the year include understanding absent narratives, multiple perspectives, researching primary and secondary sources to learn what happened and how it has impacted us today.

## Eighth Grade

### **Math with Mr. Hayden:**

Integrated Math is diving a little bit deeper to include properties of exponents and writing numbers in scientific notation at the end of their unit, whereas Algebra students are closing out their first unit by learning how to generate equivalent expressions using properties of algebra and evaluating algebraic expressions.

In both classes, Integrated Math 1 and Algebra 1, our first unit was about real numbers. Students from both classes learned a variety of topics related to this including how to convert repeating decimals to fractions (some students even discovered some very helpful tricks and shortcuts to accomplish this!), how to determine if a number is rational or irrational, how to approximate square roots using perfect squares and more.

### **Science with Mr. Chase and Ms. Dooley:**

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are deep into their forces and energy studies. They have used investigations to link changes in speed and mass to changes in energy and how energy affects forces. Next steps are looking at all elements within a system that affect inputs and outputs of energy.

One way to communicate with all students is in a science circle, where students drive the discussion and participate in dialogue regarding the science concepts we are studying. In this class students were sharing their questions regarding collisions and the forces that cause them. It is the concept we are studying in 8th grade.



## *Staff Spotlight*



Hello Murray Community!

My name is Justine Revermann, and I am one of the school counselors at Murray Middle School. I am very excited to be returning to the Murray team and community for my 4th year as a school counselor here! As one of the counselors at Murray, I primarily support students with last names A-L. I work to support all Murray students in social/emotional areas, academics, and future planning. Students will see me in groups, individually, or in classroom/large group lessons.

I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stout with my master's degree and license in School Counseling. Prior to that, I attended the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University where I earned my bachelor's degree in Psychology while also studying Exercise Science and Sport Studies. In addition to my counseling role, I coach volleyball at Como Park High School!

When I am not at school, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. I have ten nieces and nephews that keep me busy and very entertained. I also enjoy traveling, with my favorite place I've traveled being Italy. I love sports and am a resilient and loyal Minnesota sports fan.

I can be reached at [justine.revermann@spps.org](mailto:justine.revermann@spps.org) or 651-744-7130. The Murray counseling web page is: <https://murray.spps.org/student-info/counselors>

I am very proud to be a part of Murray Middle School and look forward to continuing to work as a part of this community. Go Pilots!

## Counselors Corner

### Counselors

Here are a few announcements from our counseling team. As a reminder, here is our contact information:

- Ms. Justine Revermann - [justine.revermann@spps.org](mailto:justine.revermann@spps.org) - 651-744-7130: Student last names A-L
- Ms. Stephanie Lee - [stephanie.lee@spps.org](mailto:stephanie.lee@spps.org) - 651-744-3600: Student last names M-Z

### Community mental health resources:

- Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative: (800) 565-2575
  - - En Español: <https://www.rccmhc.org/espanol>
- Ramsey County Youth Mental Health Crisis Team: 651-266-7878
- Ramsey County Adult Mental Health Crisis Team: 651-266-7900
- Call CRISIS (274747) from anywhere in MN to reach the local County crisis team
- Crisis Text Line: Text Hello to 741741
- National Suicide Prevention Line: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- Trevor Project: Text Start to 678678 or call 1-866-488-7386, [chat here](#)

### Schoology support (check attached PDF):

- Here is the link to a webpage that has tutorials about how families can access and use Schoology and Campus: <https://www.spps.org/about/departments/infinite-campus/campus-parent-information>
- Direct link to schoology tutorial:
- <https://youtu.be/f6-FofTJESE?list=TLGGx1ANm6Za9gUzMDA5MjAyNA>

### Tutoring?

- We’ve had many questions about inquiries about tutoring. At this time, there is no organized or specific tutoring resource within the school day at Murray Middle School. While we have interventions and academic support, we do not have specific tutoring resources at this time
- Here are some resources outside of the school building that we have found for families to utilize:

Resource Name	Location/How to Access
Homework Centers at the Libraries	List of Locations and Hours found here: <a href="https://sppl.org/homework/">https://sppl.org/homework/</a>
Brainfuse HelpNow	Brainfuse App with St. Paul Library Card - go here to download app: <a href="https://sppl.org/resources/homework-help/">https://sppl.org/resources/homework-help/</a> Live Tutoring everyday 1-11:00pm • English and Spanish



## Counselors Corner

### **Backpacks/school supplies**

- If you or your student are in need of a backpack or basic school supplies, please let a counselor know and we can get some supplies or a backpack for your student!

### **Every Meal**

At Murray Middle School, we are excited to partner with Every Meal to offer a food bag program:

- Free for all families & no qualifications required
- Students and/or families can pick up food from the Murray food pantry - in the main office
- Every Meal does not collect information from families; privacy is protected
- Please contact Justine Revermann - Justine.Revermann@spps.org, 651-744-7130 or Stephanie Lee - [Stephanie.Lee@spps.org](mailto:Stephanie.Lee@spps.org) or 651-744-3600 to participate or for more information.

QR Code to sign up for EveryMeal Food Pantry so your student can pick up food items:

Link here (same as QR Code): <https://forms.gle/pAAq1HtTZxXNCm8cA>



### **Student GSA**

- Murray will be starting a GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance) to create a safe space for LGBTQ+ students and allies to celebrate and talk about LGBTQ+ topics, events, and activities
- Student sign up  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfly\\_njDkto4hqzQaHyGg8N90VkBoju7Kq6hZ7b1LxJiGnWg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfly_njDkto4hqzQaHyGg8N90VkBoju7Kq6hZ7b1LxJiGnWg/viewform)

### **Therapy/counseling services with ChangeInc**

- If you are interested in your child seeing our school-based Mental health therapist, Ms. Sarah Beam, through our partnership with Change Inc, please contact your child's school counselor. Sarah is at Murray every day and can have therapy appointments during the school day! She has an informational flier included in this newsletter. Please connect with a counselor or social worker to put in a referral for your child to work with Sarah, or to talk more about therapeutic options.



COMMUNITY  
& SCHOOL  
COLLABORATIVE  
— A PROGRAM OF —  
CHANGE INC.

## Your Mental Health Professional



*Sarah Beam, MSW, LGSW*

I AM HERE TO SUPPORT  
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES!

SERVICES PROVIDED IN SCHOOL,  
HOMES, AND THE COMMUNITY INCLUDE:

- Child, Adolescent, and Family Therapy
- Skills/Support Groups
- Professional Development for Staff
- Psychoeducation and Support for Parents/Guardians
- Online sessions via Zoom

*Did you know we also  
offer out-patient clinic  
services? Scan the QR  
code to learn more about  
Change Clinic:*



**The Community & School  
Collaborative (CSC) is a program of  
Change Inc., providing prevention,  
early intervention and mental health  
services.**

CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL-  
BASED THERAPIST:

**Sarah Beam**

[SBeam@thechangeinc.org](mailto:SBeam@thechangeinc.org)

612-239-7127

\*Speaks Spanish & English

*\*CSC Services are funded by Saint Paul Public Schools, MN  
Department of Human Services, and health insurance.*





EVERY MEAL

# WEEKEND MEAL PROGRAM

## OUR MISSION

FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER  
THROUGH COMMUNITY AND  
SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

## OUR STORY

Every Meal is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger through community and school partnerships. We strive to make a difference in children's lives by specifically focusing on food gaps - the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. Every Meal supports families with programming over the weekends, extended school breaks, and summer.

Providing kids with good food that is nutritious, delicious, and relevant is our focus, and their growth and achievement is at the heart of everything we do.

## MEAL PROGRAM

- Free for all families
- No qualifications required
- No contact information collected
- Families may participate in the program at any time throughout the school year
- Students will receive food bags each week, typically on Fridays

**Weekend Food Bag Options:** Families may choose from five options structured around the USDA MyPlate standards. All bag types contain 4-5 pounds of non-perishable food, including a variety of fruits, vegetables, proteins, and grains. Bag types are identified by different colors of Every Meal logo.



Blue Bag

Tailored for East African dietary preferences, this bag is pork-free and may contain items such as tuna, spaghetti, black-eyed peas, corn flour, and tomato products.



Green Bag

Tailored to offer the widest variety of food items, this bag may contain items such as chicken, tuna, pasta, rice, mac and cheese, chili/soup, and varied vegetables and fruits.



Orange Bag

Tailored for Latino dietary preferences, this bag may contain items such as rice, black beans, pinto beans, corn flour, fideo pasta, enchilada sauce, chipotles in adobo, and diced chiles.



Purple Bag

Tailored for Southeast Asian dietary preferences, this bag may contain items such as rice, rice noodles, coconut milk, bamboo shoots, curry paste, green beans, and mandarin oranges.



Yellow Bag

Tailored with all ready-to-eat items which require little or no preparation, this bag may contain items such as dried fruit, chicken salad, sunflower seeds, granola, pasta cups, and soups.

Every Meal

612.568.4003 | 2723 Patton Rd, Roseville, MN 55113 | [everymeal.org](http://everymeal.org)



# SPPS Parent Guide to Schoology



Welcome to Schoology! This guide will help parents and guardians understand what Schoology is and how to use it. You can find out more at the Schoology Help Center website at [support.schoology.com](http://support.schoology.com)

## What Is Schoology?

Schoology is an online Learning Management System that helps you stay informed about your student's classes, assignments and grades. You can use Schoology to:

- View your student's Courses and Groups
- View your student's upcoming, current and overdue assignments
- Monitor school and course announcements
- Stay involved in your student's education

## How to Access Schoology

- Go to [spps.org/onestop](http://spps.org/onestop) and click on Schoology.
- Use your One Stop username (g#####) and password that you received in the mail to log in.
- If you don't have your One Stop username, contact your school's front office for assistance.

## Using Your Parent/Guardian Schoology Account



### Viewing your child's activity

Click on the dropdown menu arrow in the upper-right corner of your account next to your name. Select your child's name to view account activity.



### Home

Both parents and students have separate Home Pages. Similar to Facebook, the Home Page is the first place a user lands after logging in to Schoology. Here, you'll see all events, activities or updates that have taken place.



### Courses

Here you will find all your child's academic courses listed in a pulldown menu. Click on a course to see more information, details or assignments.



### Groups

Groups are most often used for information, activities, or special interests. For example, your child might belong to an athletic team that maintains a Schoology Group. Groups do not issue grades.

Note: Guardians are only able to see their own student's Schoology account, **Courses and Groups**. They are not able to join other Courses or Groups, or post comments, or see other student information.

## Navigating Student Schoology Accounts:

The screenshot shows a Schoology student account interface. On the left is a navigation menu with items: Summary (1), Grades/Attendance, Mastery, Calendar, and Messages. The main content area is titled 'Student Activity - Enrollments' and contains three sections: 'Courses' (2) with a table of current courses, 'Groups' (3) with a list of groups, and 'Recent Grades/Attendance' (4) with a list of assignments and their due dates. The 'Upcoming' section (6) is also visible on the right side of the main content area.

Courses	Current	Grade	Attendance
Spanish Section 2		80%	-
Algebra Section 1		100%	-
English 10 Section 1		92%	-
U.S. History 1st Period		-	-

- 1 Use the left menu to quickly view specific information about your student's Schoology Activity:
  - Summary:** Click to see an overview of your student's courses and grades (Enrollments in the center column), or notifications about grades on individual assignments (Student Activity in the middle column).
  - Grades:** Review your student's grades for all courses.
  - Mastery:** If your student's school aligns materials to standards and learning objectives, you can check progress here.
  - Calendar:** Click to view a calendar of past and upcoming events and assignments. Events and assignments in the near future are also listed in the Upcoming column on the right.
  - Messages:** Parents do not have access to **Messages**.
- 2 Select **Enrollments** in the center column to see a list of your student's current courses, along with their grade. The grade may not be displayed while the course is in progress, as in the grade column for U.S. History in the sample above. Click on an individual course to see grades for assignments, tests, and discussions.
- 3 Here under **Groups**, you can see a list of your student's Schoology Groups. Groups can be used for a variety of activities, from school projects to extracurricular teams and clubs.
- 4 The **Recent Grades/Attendance** section displays your student's recent grade. **Attendance is not tracked in Schoology. Please refer to the One Stop Campus Portal link to check on attendance.**
- 5 The **Overdue** section displays a list of course materials your student did not turn in by the due date.
- 6 The **Upcoming** section displays a list of your student's upcoming assignments and events.





**Pictures, your way.**

A few days after Picture Day, you will be able to view your images online using this event code:

**FE202524**

**Ordering is fun and easy!**



Personalize  
your pictures



Buy prints and  
hi-res images



Ships directly  
to your home

**More than one student? Get all your photos in one easy order.**

**Three or more students? SAVE 30% on your purchase!**

Discount will be automatically applied at checkout; no promo code required.



**ORDER AT  
JOSTENSPIX.COM**

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# 1. PREVIEW

VIEW YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE | A FEW DAYS AFTER PICTURE DAY AT JOSTENSPIX.COM



**CREATE AN ACCOUNT**  
For immediate access to your student's photos, use the email address you provided to your school.



**PREVIEW YOUR PHOTOS**  
If you don't see your photos in the gallery, go to Find Your Student and enter your school code.

# 2. PERSONALIZE

CHOOSE FROM A VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS AND PERSONALIZE WITH YOUR STUDENT'S NAME



# 3. PAY

BUY ONLY THE PHOTOS YOU WANT | NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS.  
Photos are shipped directly to you!

ORDER AT  
**JOSTENSPIX.COM**  
FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 1-877-515-1447



[ENGLISH]

**PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW TEACHER AND PARAPROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

Under the *Every Student Succeeds Act*, parents have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals. Parents who would like to receive this information should write to the Human Resource Department, Attn: ESSA Teacher Qualifications, Saint Paul Public Schools, 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102-3299. You have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teacher(s).

- Information about whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- Information about whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- Information about whether the teacher is teaching (subjects or content) in which proper certification is held by the teacher.
- Information about whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

[HMONG]

**NIAM TXIV MUAJ CAI PAUB TXOG COV XIB FWB QHIA NTAWV**

Raws li txoj cai *Every Student Succeeds Act*, cov niam txiv muaj cai nug kom paub txog cov xib fwb qhia ntawv uas qhia ntawv rau lawv tus me nyuam thiab cov neeg uas pab tus xib fwb qhia ntawv seb lawv txawj thiab kawm ntawv siab npaum li cas. Cov niam txiv uas xav paub txog tej li hais no muaj peev xwm sau tau ntawv mus rau Human Resource department, Attn: ESSA Teacher Qualifications, Saint Paul Public Schools, 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102-3299. Nej muaj cai nug txog cov nram qab no ntsig txog nej tus me nyuam tus xib fwb qhia ntawv.

- Kev qhia seb tus xib fwb txawj npaum li cas thiab puas muaj lai xee qhia ntawv raws li lub xeev txoj cai los qhia qib ntawv ntawd thiab qhia yam uas nws qhia.
- Kev qhia seb puas yog tus xib fwb ntawd los qhia rau lub caij maj ceev es thiaj li tsis tag txawj txawj thiab muaj lai xee raws li lub xeev txoj cai los tau.
- Kev qhia seb tus xib fwb puas qhia yam uas nws muaj ntawv pov thawj los qhia.
- Kev qhia seb tus me nyuam puas tau txais kev pab los ntawm cov pab tus xib fwb (paraprofessional). Yog tau no lawv txawj thiab kawm ntawv siab li cas.

[SOMALI]

**Xuquuqda ay Waalidku u leeyihiin inay Ogaadaan Macluumaadka Macallimiinta iyo Shaqaalaha Kale**

Sida uu qabo qaanuunka loo yaqaanno "Every Student Succeeds Act" oo micne ahaan ah "Qaanuunka Guusha Arday Walba", waalidiintu waxay xaq u leeyihiin inay codsan karaan macluumaad ku saabsan xirfadda macallimiinta iyo shaqaalaha kale ee carruurtooda wax bara. Waalidiinta raba inay helaan macluumaadkan, qoraal ha u soo diraan qaybta shaqaalaynta mas'uulka ka ah oo la dhaho Human Resource Department. Codsigaaga halkan ku soo hagaaji: Attn: ESSA Teacehr Qualifications, Saint Paul Public Schools, 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102-3299. Waxaad xaq u leedahay inaad codsato macluumaadkan hoose ee ku saabsan macallimiinta ilmahaaga wax bara:

- In macallinka ama macallimaddu buuxiyeen shuruudaha maadada iyo fasalka ay dhigayaan la xiriira ee uu gobolku ka rabo islamrkaana khibrad u leeyihiin maadada ay barayaan.
- In macallinka ama macallimaddu haystaan oggolaansho ku meel gaar ah inta ay soo buuxinayaan shuruudihii laga rabay ee dhinaca wax barista iyo in laga qaaday ama laga fasaxay shuruudahaas hadda.
- In macallinka ama macallimaddu ay barayaan maaddooyinka ay u haystaan shatiga islamarkaana takhasuska u leeyihiin.
- In uu ilmahaagu helo kaalmada macallin-kalkaaliye, iyo weliba nooca waxbarashada kalkaaliyahaas.



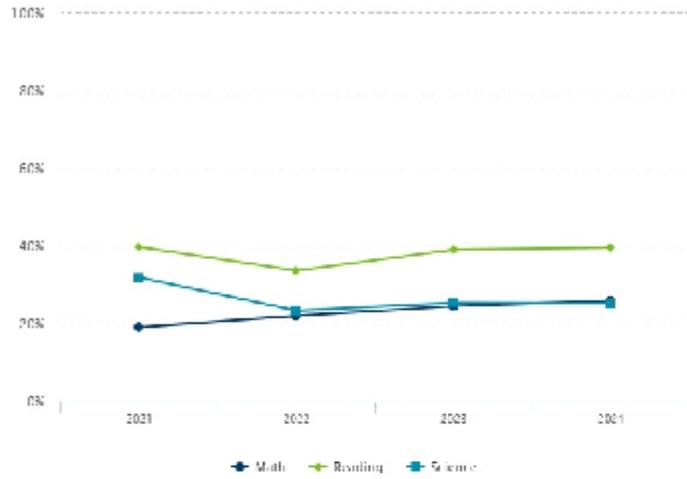


**Minnesota Report Card**  
**My School: What can I learn about my school and its students?**



Murray Middle School Saint Paul Public Schools  
 Demographics: All Students

**The number of students meeting standards in math, reading, and science over time**



Subject	2021	2022	2023	2024
Math	19.8% (71)	22.1% (109)	24.5% (116)	25.9% (128)
Reading	39.8% (160)	33.7% (171)	39.1% (198)	39.6% (199)
Science	31.9% (30)	23.4% (33)	25.4% (35)	25.2% (39)



Murray Middle School Saint Paul Public Schools  
 Demographics: All Students

**The number of students attending school regularly**

This is a measure of students who attend school on a regular basis and are not frequently absent. A student is considered consistently attending if they attend more than 90 percent of the time the student is enrolled during the year.

