



# Harding Newsletter

January 16, 2023



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Hello Harding Families,

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a wonderful and refreshing winter break. We are coming up on the end of quarter 2 so we want to make sure that as families and students we are keeping up with our work and grades. Remember all staff at Harding are available to reach out to if you need help getting your grades up.

As we move into the spring semester, standardized testing will be starting and many students will be required to take different tests. Please read the section labeled 'Spring Testing' if you want more information about the different tests.

If you want to order a yearbook please scroll down to the section on 'yearbook ordering'!

Happy New Year,  
Harding Staff

### Spring Testing

All ELL students will have to take the **ACCESS** test: February 1- March 22. The ACCESS test is a 4 part test that will be taken over 3 days and helps to measure where students are in their English language learning. [Go to this link to read more information.](#)

The **MCAs** are taken by 10th and 11th graders and anyone taking biology. There will be a school wide MCA day where most students will complete their test and if they need to take the Science MCA they will take it in biology class.

Any 11th graders who would like to take the **ACT** can sign up in the spring to take it at Harding. It is offered for free on March 12th at Harding High School.

For any testing questions, contact the test coordinator Micah Zielske, [micah.zielske@spps.org](mailto:micah.zielske@spps.org)

## Family Engagement Meetings

**Meetings are always the third Monday of each month at 5:00-6:30 pm. Dinner from 5:00-5:30, meeting starts at 5:30.**

January 22nd, February 26th, March 18th. This is a place for families to meet and discuss what they would like to see happen at Harding, learn about Harding's programs, and create connections.

## Band and Orchestra Concerts





Congratulations to all the Harding Orchestra and Band students who had a fantastic first concert on Tuesday, December 19! All 5 Harding instrumental ensembles, which includes the Orchestra, Intermediate Band, Advanced Band, Jazz Band and Drumline, got to perform for a huge audience and share with friends and family what we've been working on so far this year! We still have more performances coming up this school year, so please join us in the future!

**Upcoming Music Department Concerts Include:**

- Tuesday, February 27 - Midwinter Collaboration Concert with Choir & Orchestra @7:00pm in the Harding Auditorium
- Tuesday, May 2 - Spring Band & Orchestra Concert @7:00pm in the Harding Auditorium
- Monday, May 15 - Spring Choir concert @7:00pm in the Harding Auditorium

## Credit Recovery

**Seniors who are enrolled** in credit recovery for classes that are needed in order to graduate this spring will be enrolled, for quarters 3 and 4, in a credit recovery class that will be in place of their late start and early release.

## Bilingual Seals Test

## Minnesota Bilingual Seals and Certificate



**If you can read, write, speak, and understand another language, you may be eligible to**

**EARN FREE  
COLLEGE CREDIT  
at any MN State College or University!**

Be recognized for your language ability and start your college career off right. **Take a Bilingual Seal assessment.**

**10th, 11th, and 12th graders!**

Assessments will occur  
April 16, 17, 18, and 19, 2024

**Harding High School**

1540 6th St E, St Paul, MN 55106  
(651) 793 - 4700

Link to registration form: [bit.ly/3Rwc77X](https://bit.ly/3Rwc77X)

Please use your 'stpaul.k12.mn.us' email address.

Want to look at a sample test?

<https://avantassessment.com/sample-tests>

Your language not on list? Choose English.



**Registration deadline is January 31, 2024**

Assessments are available in:	Certificate/Seals	Level	College Credits Earned
	World Language Proficiency Certificate	Intermediate-Low	2 Semesters 8-10 college credits
	Gold Bilingual or Multilingual Seal	Intermediate-High	3 Semesters 12-15 college credits
	Platinum Bilingual or Multilingual Seal	Advanced-Low	4 Semesters 16-20 college credits

Talk to a language teacher or counselor for more information,  
or email [seepha.vang@spps.org](mailto:seepha.vang@spps.org)



**Information on FAFSA**



### **For Parents/Guardians of SENIORS:**

The 2024-2025 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is now open! Students who are planning to go to college next year need to complete this, as do their parent/guardian(s). By filling this out students could get up to \$14,000 in aid to pay for college!

Both the student and parent/guardian will need to first create an FSA ID, if you do not already have one (if you have an older child that did the FAFSA in previous years, you have an ID and cannot make another one – so make sure you can log into your account). After making an FSA ID, the student will complete their portion of the FAFSA, then invite “contributors” (parent/guardian) to complete their portion. Go to [this website](#) to get started. See the below documents for a list of what you need to complete the FAFSA, a step-by-step guide, and how to determine who will be a student’s contributor(s).

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Harding’s College and Career Center Staff: Jamie Shady ([jamie.shady@spps.org](mailto:jamie.shady@spps.org)) and Katie Kovacovich ([kkovacovich.ach@spps.org](mailto:kkovacovich.ach@spps.org)), 651-744-3599.

📄 FSA ID and FAFSA - Gathering Info.pdf

📄 FSA ID and FAFSA Worksheet.pdf

📄 Determine Parent Contributor.png

## **Spring Sports Registration**

### **Spring Sports Registration - Begins February 12<sup>th</sup>!**

Registration information can be found on the Athletics tab of the Harding website. Please note that as of July 1, 2023, SPPS Athletics per-season participation fees have increased to \$60 or \$30 if a family qualifies for free/reduced lunch economic assistance. Student-athletes must have an up-to-date sports physical on file.

#### **Spring Sports**

Girls' Badminton - Starts March 4

Boys' and Girls' Track & Field - Starts March 11

Girls' Softball - Starts March 11

Baseball - Starts March 11

Boys' and Girls' Golf - Starts March 18

Boys' Tennis - Starts March 24

Boys' Volleyball\* - Tryouts March 11, 12, 13 - Season starts March 18

*\*Fee is \$75 for boys that make the team.*

If you have any questions about athletics or eligibility, or if you are interested in supporting the athletic department, please contact Athletic Director Otto Kraus ([otto.kraus@spps.org](mailto:otto.kraus@spps.org), 651-744-3153).

# New Semester 2 Class Options

Are you interested in being a teacher? These classes can help you explore the field of education!

## Education Pathway Classes at Harding 2023/24: Semester 2



The **Education Pathway** provides opportunities for students to explore the field of education. Students in the program will have the opportunity to participate in internships, earn college credits and make a difference by working with youth in the community.

Classes offered on A Days:

1A

### Exploring Education & Social Justice (Grades 9-12)

- Great opportunity for students to explore the amazing field of education
- Volunteer/Observe at Elementary schools
- Examine schools from a social justice perspective

2A

### Multicultural Approaches to Education (Grades 10-12) /Minneapolis College Dual Enrollment Course

- Opportunity to earn 3 free college credits
- Examine how personal understanding of race, class, gender, culture, and ability impact instructional choices in the classroom
- Students reimagine the future of education
- Volunteer/observe at elementary schools



See your school counselor to join the classes!

## Yearbook Ordering and ID Replacement

### 2023 -2024 YEARBOOKS are Now on Sale

January 1<sup>st</sup> through April 29<sup>th</sup> \$45.00 plus tax

No book sales After April 29th. Must pre-order your yearbook to get a yearbook in the spring (mid/late May they arrive)

Please keep your emailed receipt

Order Online ONLY at [www.hardingyearbook.com](http://www.hardingyearbook.com)

Please email questions to: [teresa.holmes@spps.org](mailto:teresa.holmes@spps.org)

**New to Harding, Lost, Stolen or Replacement Student ID information**

- **\$2.00 to replace cash (limited time only)**
- Students NEW to Harding will get a FREE 1<sup>st</sup> ID they will need to stop by 1242 for a picture so an ID can be made for them
- Students who Lost, got their ID stolen or misplaced it. See Holmes in room 1242 it will cost \$2.00 to replace
- Stop by Ms. Holmes room to order 1242
- Information Needed: First/Last Name, Student Number, Grade & DOB
- Student can pick up their New ID the same day!!! (takes less the 10 minutes to print)
- IDs are required to attend all school events, like; sports events, dances, prom ,can be used for checking out library items, and at lunch
- Students are asked to wear their student IDs while at Harding
- Students can stop by 1242 to pick up a free **lanyard** and a **plastic ID holder**
- **Student IDs will NOT be available to order/reorder during the SUMMER**

## Student Absences

Please remember to email our Attendance Clerk at [gertraud.kussmaul@spps.org](mailto:gertraud.kussmaul@spps.org) or call the attendance hotline each day your student is absent from school. If your child is absent from school, it is necessary for a parent/guardian to call the [attendance hotline at 651-744-3063](tel:651-744-3063). Please leave the following information:

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| -Student name                | -Student number         |
| -Day and date(s) of absences | -Reason for the absence |

**If you need to pick up your student early, before the end of the school day, please call the office at least 2 hours in advance of the departure time.**

**Only certain reasons for being absent will be counted as excused.** An absence is excused if it is for an illness, a medical appointment (mental health and dental count), religious holiday, or an extreme family emergency.

Unexcused absences are vacations, missed bus, car problems, needed at home, weather, or oversleeping.

**Just because you call does not mean the absence will be marked as excused.**

## Districtwide Career Pathways Program

The career pathways program is for 11th and 12th graders who are interested in taking college courses. If enrolled you would spend your mornings at Harding and then a bus would take you to the center where you'd take your DCP classes. **Click on the link below** to learn more information or talk to your school counselor about signing up for these classes for the second semester.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fwsoWVgEDXNfamAcPTqzFjQTsxFra1UNhU-xlpGq5N4/edit>

Classes are offered in a variety of careers from engineering to business, law, automotive, construction, and more.

# Wilder's SUD Program



Wilder's SUD program is partnering with high schools across the Saint Paul School District to provide alcohol and substance use supports for students and their families. Our aim is to decrease overdoses and other concerns related to substance use by providing prevention education and support, consultations for students, families and school faculty.

- **Wilder's SUD Team** is on-site at Harding, Humboldt, Central and Washington High Schools at least 2 days a week. Consultations are available by e-mail or phone Monday-Friday 9:00-3:00pm.
- **Team includes** Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselors (LADC), Mental Health Professionals, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist and Mental Health/SUD Interns
- **Other services provided through referrals:** Substance use assessments (Rule 25/Comprehensive Assessments), individual SUD treatment, and outpatient or residential SUD Treatment.

- Walk in's Welcome for support, consultations and resources!
- Contact one of the building School Social Workers or Counselors to learn more about the referral process.

SUD Contact 651-280-2147 | [recovery@wilder.org](mailto:recovery@wilder.org)



## Parent Teacher Conferences

**February 29th from 4-7pm.** This is a chance for families to talk to teachers about how their child is doing in class. It's a great opportunity to connect and grow, remember we are all in this together and coming to conferences can be a place to figure out how best we can support our students.



## Contacting Harding High School

The Harding office phone number is **651-793-4700**. School office hours are 8:00-3:30. If you need to reach a teacher or staff member directly, please contact them through email. All staff email addresses are: **[firstname.lastname@spps.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@spps.org)** and can be found on Harding's **[online staff directory](#)**.

## Technology Help

If students need iPad help please contact Richard Matthes at [richard.matthes@spps.org](mailto:richard.matthes@spps.org) or call 651-744-3163.

## School Counseling Office

Shanie Xiong (A - F) [shanie.xiong@spps.org](mailto:shanie.xiong@spps.org) or 651-744-1428  
Teresa Savage (G-K & W) [teresa.savage@spps.org](mailto:teresa.savage@spps.org) or 651-774-3506  
Edward Xiong (L, M) [edward.xiong@spps.org](mailto:edward.xiong@spps.org) or 651-744-5656  
Kris Mullins (N-S) [kris.mullins@spps.org](mailto:kris.mullins@spps.org) or 651-744-2092  
Mana Vue (T, U, V) [mana.vue@spps.org](mailto:mana.vue@spps.org) or 651-744-3152  
James Lo (X, Y, Z) [james.lo@spps.org](mailto:james.lo@spps.org) or 651-744-3664  
Tami Johnson (AIS counselor) [tami.johnson@spps.org](mailto:tami.johnson@spps.org) or 651-744-1160  
Jamie Shady (CCC) [james.shady@spps.org](mailto:james.shady@spps.org) or 651-744-3599

## Get in Contact with Admin Staff

Tony Chlebeczek, Interim Principal, [anthony.chlebeczek@spps.org](mailto:anthony.chlebeczek@spps.org)  
Craig Cuidry, Assistant Principal (9th grade), [craig.guidry@spps.org](mailto:craig.guidry@spps.org)  
Jimmy Nyembwe, Assistant Principal (9th grade), [jimmy.nyembwe@spps.org](mailto:jimmy.nyembwe@spps.org)  
Xong Moua, Assistant Principal (10th grade), [xong.moua@spps.org](mailto:xong.moua@spps.org)  
Jayson Spence, Assistant Principal (11th grade), [jayson.spence@spps.org](mailto:jayson.spence@spps.org)  
Evelyn Nordquist, Assistant Principal (12th grade), [evelyn.nordquist@spps.org](mailto:evelyn.nordquist@spps.org)  
Phoenix Cobb, Behavioral Intervention Specialist (9th grade), [phoenix.cobb@spps.org](mailto:phoenix.cobb@spps.org)  
Essa Adam, Behavioral intervention Specialist (10th grade), [essa.adam@spps.org](mailto:essa.adam@spps.org)

Steve Solaja, Behavioral Intervention Specialist (11th grade), [stephan.solaja@spps.org](mailto:stephan.solaja@spps.org)  
Kelly Brown, Behavioral Intervention Specialist (12th Grade), [kelly.brown@spps.org](mailto:kelly.brown@spps.org)

**Let's GO Harding!**