



Harding Newsletter



April 17, 2024

Together We Will Learn and Grow

Dear Harding Families,

Welcome back after a, hopefully, relaxing and refreshing spring break. In this last quarter of the school year we want to encourage you and your students to continue to stay focused on passing classes, being involved in activities, and connecting with staff members. As we finish up this year we want to get feedback from families on what they want to see in our school. Specifically, we would like feedback on the best way to get families engaged and what activities they would like to see at Harding. How can we better connect and communicate with our students and families to create a stronger community? Please fill out [this google form](#) so we can get as many family's responses in order to update our family engagement plan.

Thank you and welcome back,
Harding Staff

Family Engagement Meeting

Meeting date: April 22nd

Meeting time: 5:00 pm for dinner, meeting starts at 5:30 pm

Please join us for discussions about the budget and our goals for next year.

If you need a ride please call 651-793-4700 to schedule an uber or lyft.

Choir and Orchestra Concerts



Band members



Orchestra Members



Choir Members

Congratulations to the Harding Band, Choir & Orchestra students who participated in the 31st Annual SPPS-Ordway Honors Concert on Tuesday, April 2 at The Ordway in downtown Saint Paul. Students from all over the district participated in this 2-day event, working with guest conductors in mid-March, and finishing with a concert before Spring Break. Look for a video recording to come out in May through the district.

Band Student Participants: Faith Chang, Selina Del Carmen Flores Chacon, Kei Kavaney, Calix Lor, Daniel Poirier, Aspen Rouillard-Horne, Grant Rouillard-Horne, Tanner Rouillard-Horne, Jenny Soe, Cecilia Thao, Chance Thor Saykao, Isaac Vang, Baylie Vick, Scie Yang, Payton Yang, Shawn Yang

Choir Student Participants: Eden Ford, Pazee Lee, Gaojah Lo, DaShawn Mehl-Odeneal, Chiashe Moua, Martin Nguyen, Angel Rangel, Josephine Rashidi, Duabzong Vang, Kelvin Vang, Keng Xiong, Dala Yang, Layue Yang,

Orchestra Student Participants: Ki'Nyah Hobson, Lanah Nguyen, Erika Tarango Hernandez, Emily Vang, Lydia Vang, Sarah Vue, Natalie Westin, Angelina Xiong

Upcoming Music Department Concerts Include:

- Tuesday, April 30 - Spring Band & Orchestra Concert @7:00pm in the Harding Auditorium
- Thursday, May 16 - Spring Choir concert @7:00pm in the Harding Auditorium

Be sure to check out a concert before you miss them all!

Harding High School

Music Department

Presents



**Spring
Band &
Orchestra
Concert**

Tuesday, April 30th, 2024
7:00pm | Harding Auditorium



College and Career Center



On March 20th Harding's Counseling Department hosted their monthly Career Chat, and this month's topic was Visual and Performing Arts. We had 3 amazing panelists (including 2 Harding alumni!) present to about 30 students on their careers and educational pathways. Students learned about different arts careers, training and education required, and got to participate in a Q & A at the end. We are grateful to our panelists for taking the time to share their knowledge and experiences with our students and look forward to hosting our next career chat, on Cosmetology, on April 24th! Career Chats are open to all students, 9-12, and are hosted once a month with rotating career topics. For more information contact Katie Kovacovich or Tami Johnson.



On March 15th Harding's College and Career Center hosted their annual MnACC College Fair for all juniors and seniors. Over 30 colleges had tables in our atrium for students to learn more about colleges and ask questions to admissions representatives. We received amazing feedback from our reps that we have excellent students who were engaged and asked great questions!

If you or your student have any questions about college or postsecondary planning, please reach out to our CCC Coordinators: Katie Kovacovich and Jamie Shady.

IB Exam Schedule

IB exams are coming up at the end of April- May. Please click the link below to look at the spreadsheet to see which days you will be testing depending on which classes you are taking this year.

[May 2024 Exam Schedule Public](#)

Guest Choir Visit with Our Choir Classes



In March, the choir and world music classes welcomed the guest choir 29:11 International all the way from South Africa! The musicians joined our students to teach and perform a variety of songs from South Africa in several languages. Our students loved the chance to sing new songs with these exceptional musicians and learn about the music, culture, and history of South Africa.

New Latino Family Events

Hello Harding,

I would like to share with you our upcoming events for New Latino Families in Saint Paul Public Schools. I would be grateful if you could assist in sharing this information with new Latino families in our community.

We will be hosting two special events to support our Latino community:

Orientation for Newcomer Latino Families:

This orientation is designed to provide valuable information about the school system, enrollment process, programs, and resources offered by St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS). It's an excellent opportunity for families who are new to our district to learn and connect.

Event for new Latino Families with Students Receiving Special Education Services:

This event is specifically focused on Latino families with students who are receiving Special Education services.

Here are the details for the orientation:

Date: **Thursday, April 25**

Location: **360 S Colborne St, St Paul, MN 55102**

Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Dinner and connection with other Latin families.

Transportation and childcare.

Additionally, here are the details for the event focused on Latino families with students receiving Special Education services:

Date: **Wednesday April 17th 2024**

Location: **Humboldt High School, 30 East Baker Street, St. Paul, 55107**

Time: 5:30 to 7:30

Dinner and connection with other Latin families.

Transportation and childcare

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need more information.

Thank you,

Adriana Rios Dessalet, adriana.riosdessalet@spps.org

MCA Information

We had a successful MCA day on April 1st with almost 500 students finishing the reading and math MCAs. Throughout the rest of the first week of April we had all the biology students take the science MCA. We appreciate all our students who tried their best and took the tests. Results will come out in a few months.

Career Opportunity in Landscaping



**Trained, Certified & Employed in a
Green Career!**

**Now Hiring: Branches Pre-Apprenticeship PAID Tree Care
and Landscaping Program**

Who Can Participate? Explore Your Future...

- Ages 18-28
- High School graduate or GED recipient
- \$15.00/hour, 28-30 hours per week.
- FREE transportation to and from pick up spots.
- Earn industry certifications: Introduction to Arboriculture plus CPR First Aid training.
- Individual career coach will work with you to obtain a full time job after the 10 week PAID program.

Scan to Apply



Call/Text Joan | 612-297-1911

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) and Katie Kovacovich (kkovacovich.ach@spps.org), 651-744-3599.

📄 FSA ID and FAFSA - Gathering Info.pdf

📄 FSA ID and FAFSA Worksheet.pdf

📄 Determine Parent Contributor.png

Yearbook Ordering and ID Replacement

2023 -2024 YEARBOOKS are Now on Sale

January 1st through April 29th \$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

Please email questions to: 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 1st 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
- Students 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**

Summer School

Counselors will be signing students who need credit recovery for summer school. Transportation will be provided, and you will get more information in May if your student needs to attend summer school.

Summer School Program Dates & Times:

Session 1: June 24-July 18 (17 days), 8:45 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

No School Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5

Session 2: July 22-August 13 (17 days), 8:45 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Student Absences

Please remember to email our Attendance Clerk at 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.

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

Technology Help

If students need iPad help please contact Richard Matthes at richard.matthes@spps.org or call 651-744-3163.

School Counseling Office

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

Get in Contact with Admin Staff

Tony Chlebecek, Interim Principal, anthony.chlebecek@spps.org
Craig Cuidry, Assistant Principal (9th grade), craig.guidry@spps.org
Jimmy Nyembwe, Assistant Principal (9th grade), jimmy.nyembwe@spps.org
Xong Moua, Assistant Principal (10th grade), xong.moua@spps.org
Jayson Spence, Assistant Principal (11th grade), jayson.spence@spps.org
Evelyn Nordquist, Assistant Principal (12th grade), evelyn.nordquist@spps.org
Phoenix Cobb, Behavioral Intervention Specialist (9th grade), phoenix.cobb@spps.org
Essa Adam, Behavioral intervention Specialist (10th grade), essa.adam@spps.org
Steve Solaja, Behavioral Intervention Specialist (11th grade), stephan.solaja@spps.org
Kelly Brown, Behavioral Intervention Specialist (12th Grade), kelly.brown@spps.org

Have a Wonderful Day!