

- **Family Newsletter**
- **December 2024**
- **&**
- **January 2025**

The Heights Community School

1863 E. Clear Ave.
St. Paul, MN, 55119
Phone 651-293-8815
Attendance Line 651-744-2273
<https://theheights.spps.org/>



Important Dates for Dec & Jan

December 2024:

- 4 Picture Retake Day
- 14 School Choice Fair
- 23-31 Winter Break

January 2025:

- 1-3 Winter Break
- 6 Classes Resume
- 20 No School Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 14 PTA & SCIP Parent Mtg
- 17 Chuck E Cheese
- 27 No School Prof Dev Day



Cov hnuv tseeb ceeb nyob rau lub 12 hlis

thiab 1 hlis ntuj.

12 hlis ntuj 2024

- Tim 4 rov qab muaj yees duab dua
- tim 14 yog hnuv xaiv tsev kawm ntawv
- tim 23-31 tsis kawm ntawv [Winter Break]

1 hlis ntuj 2025

- tim 1-3 tsis kawm ntawv [Winter Break]
- tim 6 rov qab pib kawm ntawv dua
- tim 20 tsis kawm ntawv [MLK hnuv yug]
- Tim 14 Rooj sib tham txog PTA & SCIP
- Tim 17 Muaj Chuck E Cheese
- tim 27 tsis kawm ntawv

The Heights website

Please check out our website at
<https://theheights.spps.org/>

Please read and discuss the Family Handbook with your students at:
<https://theheights.spps.org/families/family-handbook>

Click the link below for Title I information regarding:
School Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP)
Family Engagement Plan (FEP)
Compact
Parent's Right to Know
<https://theheights.spps.org/about/title-i>

Title I information will also be available in the school office and the family resource room.

Resources for Families

Union Gospel Mission: Throughout the year the Union Gospel Mission serves meals for people in need. Please check Union Gospel Mission's website for more information.
www.ugmtc.org

Loaves and Fishes:

<https://www.loavesandfishesmn.org/community-meal-sites/>
Call 612-377-9810 for more information.

Salvation Army Angel Tree: The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of thousands of children around the country each year. Once a child or senior adult has been registered and accepted as an **Angel** their Christmas wish list is shared with donors in your community who purchase gifts of new clothing and toys. <https://saangeltree.org>

Hunger Impact Partners: Food for Every Child
<https://hungerimpactpartners.org/meals-for-kids/mobile-app-2/>

Find Help - Hunger Solutions

How can we help you? Prefer to talk to a person? Call the HelpLine at 1-888-711-1151. www.hungersolutions.org

Community Food Resources

Several community organizations provide free meals for families around Saint Paul.

- **Minnesota Food Helpline** Call 888-711-1151 for assistance, Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Ramsey County Food Resources**
- **Interactive Food Locations** (food shelves, groceries at low or no-cost, farmer's markets, meals at no-cost)
Customer Contact Center 651-266-8500 (Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm)

Open the **Saint Paul Resources** document attached to this email for a list of resources including:

- Food Resources**
- Clothing Resources**
- Housing Resources**
- Financial Assistance Resources**
- Student Evaluations**
- Furniture Resources**
- Mental Health Resources**

The Heights Community School
651-293-8815

Testing Info

Parent/Guardian Information on Statewide Testing

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) requires statewide standardized testing on an annual basis. For more information on statewide testing, as well as parents'/guardians' right to refuse testing click the link below:

<https://www.spps.org/about/departments/research-evaluation-assessment/data-center/school-district-data/minnesota-comprehensive-assessment-mca>

Tests and Testing Schedules

For information on ACCESS 2.0, CogAT, FAST literacy and MCA testing for the school year check out the SPPS District Testing Calendar, Test Descriptions and School Schedules at this link:

<https://www.spps.org/about/departments/research-evaluation-assessment/test-coordination/testing-calendars>

School Hours 7:30-2:00
Office Hours 7:15-2:45



7:15 Cafeteria opens for FREE Breakfast to Go

7:30 All students must be in their classrooms or they will be marked tardy.

Please, always use the Attendance Line to call in an absent student!
(use even during regular school hours!)

651-744-2273

The Attendance Line is Available 24 Hours a Day/7 Days a Week!

Parent Survey

Please complete the online Dec Parent Survey before Friday, Dec 13 for a chance to win a \$25 Target gift card!

See page 6 for more details.

Parent Survey :

<https://forms.gle/vZfYK8CA5wFc2F999>



Your Opinion Counts

iUpdate

Complete Your iUpdate

Families should complete their annual iUpdate for each student to ensure SPPS has your current contact information and other required forms on file.

Visit <https://www.spps.org/onestop> to complete yours now.

News from the Health Office

SPPS Winter Weather Plan

<https://www.spps.org/families/weather-plan>

SPPS follows state education guidelines that allow districts to offer e-learning days due to inclement weather. **The district may call a non-instructional day or e-learning day if:**

- Wind chills are forecasted to be -35 or colder at 6 a.m. OR
- Snow makes it too difficult for our students and staff to safely get to school

The Superintendent also reserves the right to close school due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances, if necessary. **Students should take their iPads and chargers home every day to be prepared for the possibility of an e-learning day due to weather conditions.**

Please note that delayed start times and early dismissals are not logistically possible in Saint Paul Public Schools.

Do Not Send your child to school if sick with the following:

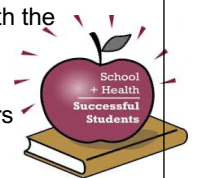
- ***Fever** 100.4 degrees or higher
 - ***Throwing up/diarrhea** in the last 24 hours
- OR
- *If **medications** have been given to keep fevers down in the last 24 hours

*Cold Symptoms, Cough or other concerns - send/bring your child to school and have our health team assess your child. We're here to help!

SPPS Recess Weather Plan

Schools will keep students inside if the wind chill is expected to be colder than -10 degrees below zero.

<https://www.spps.org/families/weather-plan>



News from the Specialists



Physical Education: Mr. Beason

HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON HEIGHTS FAMILIES!

K'S-2ND GRADES HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THROWING/TOSSING SKILLS IN NOVEMBER. DECEMBER WILL BE STRIKING SKILLS WITH; HAND, PADDLE AND RACKETS.

IN GRADES 3-5, STUDENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON BASKETBALL SKILLS OF; DRIBBLING, PASSING AND SHOOTING AND SMALL TEAM PLAY. DECEMBER WILL INCLUDE STRIKING SKILLS AND MORE RACKET SKILLS. GRADES 4-5, HAVE BEEN GETTING INSTRUCTION FROM ST. PAUL URBAN TENNIS COACHES. THIS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE SCHOOL YEAR.

ALL GRADES HAVE BEEN FOCUSING THIS FALL ON STANDARD #4. I ACT FAIRLY AND RESPECTFULLY WHEN I PLAY IN P.E. CLASS. PARENTS, PLEASE TALK WITH YOUR STUDENTS ABOUT THIS AS MANY STUDENTS STRUGGLE WITH PLAYING FAIRLY. BUNDLE YOUR KIDS UP AND PLAY OUTSIDE WITH COLDER WEATHER!!!

Science: Mr. Welke

4th and 5th graders are studying Yellowstone National Park to understand how matter and energy move through ecosystems.



3rd graders are learning about weather and climate around the world.

2nd graders are learning about how can we describe materials as different from one another and understand how their properties relate to their use.

1st graders are learning about how animals use their body parts, communicate with their young, and make sounds.

Kindergarteners are learning about what happens when we push, pull, and drop object and how we change their speed and direction.

SPIRIT WEEK @ The Heights
DECEMBER 16-20

Monday December 16	Tuesday December 17	Wednesday December 18	Thursday December 19	Friday December 20
TWIN DAY    	COLOR DAY Choose a color and wear as many pieces of clothing as you can in that color!   	CULTURAL DAY    	SPORTS DAY    	COZY DAY   

The Heights Community School
651-293-8815

School Choice Fair
Discover an SPPS school you'll love!
Join us for the Saint Paul Public Schools PreK-12 School Choice Fair

Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Saint Paul RiverCentre (175 Kellogg Boulevard West, St. Paul, MN 55102)

Visit the School Choice Fair to talk to SPPS staff members and learn more about our schools, programs and services.

- Free, on-site Early Childhood Screenings (ages 3-5)
- Flu vaccine clinic with M Health Fairview
- Free backpacks for attendees
- Interpreters will be available in Hmong, Karen, Somali, Spanish, Oromo, and ASL

Getting to the School Choice Fair:

Free Park-and-Ride

Shuttles starting at 9:00 a.m.

- Harding High School - 1540 E. 6th Street
- Humboldt Secondary - 30 E. Baker Street
- Johnson High School - 1349 Arcade Street
- Washington Technology Magnet – 1495 Rice Street

Shuttles starting at 7:00 a.m.

- SPPS Administration - 360 Colborne Street

Science Museum Parking Ramp

Limited free parking is available for families attending the School Choice Fair. Parking vouchers will be redeemed inside the fair.

Metro Transit

[Download](#) a FREE Metro Transit 1-Day Ride Pass.



Feria de Elección Escolar PreK-12 para el año escolar 2025-26

Visite la Feria de Elección Escolar para conversar con empleados de SPPS y aprender más sobre nuestras escuelas, programas y servicios.

- Sábado 14 de diciembre, 2024 | 9:30 a.m. a 2 p.m.
- Saint Paul RiverCentre (175 Kellogg Boulevard West, St. Paul, MN 55102)

Lub Rooj Xaiv Tsev Kawm Ntawv Rau Qib PreK-12 Rau Xyoo Kawm Ntawv 2025-26

Mus koom lub rooj xaiv tsev kawm ntawv es nrog SPPS cov neeg ua hauj lwm tham kom paub ntxiv txog peb cov tsev kawm ntawv, cov khoos kas thiab kev pab cuam.

- Saturday, lub 12 Hlis tim 14, 2024 | 9:30 a.m. txog 2 p.m.
- Saint Paul RiverCentre (175 Kellogg Boulevard West, St. Paul, MN 55102)

Bandhigga Xulashada Iskoollada ee PreK-12 ee Sannad-dugsiyeedka 2025-26

Booqo Bandhigga Xulashada Iskoollada si aad ula hadasho xubnaha shaqaalaha SPPS oo aad wax badan uga ogaatid dugsiyadeenna, barnaamijyadeenna iyo adeegyadeenna.

- Sabti, December 14, 2024 | 9:30 subaxnimo ilaa 2 galabnimo
- Saint Paul RiverCentre (175 Kellogg Boulevard West, St. Paul, MN 55102)

5th Grade Middle School Tours & Open Houses

<https://apply.spps.org/>

Middle School Tour Videos

Saint Paul Public Schools provides middle school students with challenging academics and strong support programs to ease the transition from childhood to young adulthood. [Click here to view the full playlist of middle school videos.](#)

An open house is a perfect opportunity to learn more about schools that interest you. Meet staff and discover the programs, activities and services available to your child. Winter open houses begin in January. Dates and times are subject to change.

25-26 School
Selection Guides

2025-2026
Enrollment
Opens Dec. 14

Middle Schools

Open Houses begin in January

[American Indian Magnet School](#)

[Battle Creek Middle School](#)

Community School for A, B

[Capitol Hill Magnet](#)

[Creative Arts Secondary School](#)

[East African Elementary Magnet School](#)

[E-STEM Middle School](#)

[Farnsworth Aerospace - Upper \(5-8\)](#)

[Global Arts Plus - Upper \(5-8\)](#)

[Hazel Park Preparatory Academy - Middle Years International Baccalaureate World School](#)

[Hidden River Middle School - Middle Years International Baccalaureate](#)

Community School for F1

Programs offered:

- Hidden River Middle School - French Immersion (Serves: A, B, Ce, Cw, D, E, F1, F2)

[Highland Park Middle School - Middle Years International Baccalaureate](#)

Community School for F2

Programs offered:

- Highland Park Middle School - Mandarin Immersion (Serves: A, B, Ce, Cw, D, E, F1, F2)
- Highland Park Middle School - Spanish Immersion (Serves: A, B, Ce, Cw, D, E, F1, F2)

[Humboldt High School - Environmental Science](#)

Community School for D

[Murray Middle School](#)

Community School for E

[Open World Learning](#)

[SPPS Online Middle School](#)

[Txuj Ci HMong Language and Culture Upper Campus \(5-8\)](#)

[Washington Technology Magnet Middle School](#)

Community School for Ce, Cw

Programs offered:

- Washington Technology Magnet Middle School - BioSMART (Serves: A, B, Ce, Cw, D, E, F1, F2)



Parent Survey 2024

Fall Parent Survey 2024/Encuesta para padres de otoño 2024/Kev Tshawb Fawb Kev Poob Niam Txiv 2024

<https://forms.gle/vZfYK8CA5wFc2F999>

Greetings Heights Families,

We need your help to let us know how things are going so far this year. Please use the link to answer a short survey. The survey is anonymous. The information that is gathered will be presented to staff for their professional development.

Emails will be collected but they will not be attached to the answers submitted. Emails will be used for a PTA drawing for six \$25 Target gift cards.

Please complete the survey by Friday, December 13.

Thank you for your help.



Saludos Familias de Heights,

Necesitamos su ayuda para hacernos saber cómo van las cosas en lo que va del año. Utilice el enlace para responder una breve encuesta. La encuesta es anónima. La información que se recopile se presentará al personal para su desarrollo profesional.

Se recopilarán correos electrónicos, pero no se adjuntarán a las respuestas enviadas. Los correos electrónicos se utilizarán para un sorteo de la PTA de seis tarjetas de regalo Target de \$25.

Complete la encuesta antes del viernes 13 de diciembre.

Gracias por tu ayuda.

Txais tos txhua tsev neeg ntawm Heights,

Peb xav tau kev pab qhia los ntawm nej sawv daws seb xyoo no yuav muaj dab tsi. Thov siv qhov link ntawm daim survey los teb cov lus nug. Txoj kev tshawb fawb no tsis tas qhia npe. Cov lus uas nej teb tuaj yuav muab tshaj tawm rau cov neeg ua hauj lwm rau lawv coj mus kawm txuas ntxiv.

Muaj sau email tab sis nws yuav tsis txuas rau cov lus teb rov qab. Tsev kawm ntawv yuav dho npe tau \$25 los ntawm koom haum PTA coj mus siv yuav khoom nyob rau hauv Target.

Thov teb daim ntawv tshawb fawb no tsis pub dhau hnuv Friday, 12 Hlis ntuj tim 13.

Ua tsaug rau koj txoj kev txhawb nqa.

SEPTEMBER

2	No School, Labor Day	PreK-12
3	First Day of School	1-12
3-4	No School, Family Welcome Meetings	Pre-K & K
5	First Day of School	Pre-K & K

OCTOBER

3	No School, Professional Development Rosh Hashanah	PreK-12
17-18	No School, State Teacher Meeting (MEA)	PreK-12
25	No School, Conference Preparation	PreK-5

NOVEMBER

7	End of Quarter 1	
8	No School, Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences Secondary Professional Development	PreK-12
28-29	No School, Thanksgiving Break	PreK-12

DECEMBER

23-31	No School, Winter Break	PreK-12
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JANUARY

1-3	No School, Winter Break	PreK-12
20	No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day	PreK-12
24	End of Quarter 2	
27	No School, Elementary Professional Development Secondary Grading Day	PreK-12

FEBRUARY

17	No School, Presidents Day	PreK-12
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MARCH

7	No School, Elementary Conference Preparations Secondary Professional Development	PreK-12
28	No School, Parent-teacher conferences End of Quarter 3	PreK-5
31	No School, Eid al-Fitr	PreK-12

APRIL

1-4	No School, Spring Break	PreK-12
18	No School, Teacher Professional Development	PreK-12

MAY

26	No School, Memorial Day	PreK-12
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JUNE

10	Last Day of School End of Quarter 4	PreK-12
19	District Holiday, Juneteenth	

GRADES

PreK-12
1-12
Pre-K & K
Pre-K & K



2024-25 School Year Calendar

- Important Dates
- No School for Pre-K and Kindergarten (ECSE follows the Pre-K calendar)
- No School All Grades (PreK-12)
- No School PreK-5 (6-8 grade students at PreK-8 schools are in school)
- # End of Quarter

August 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2025

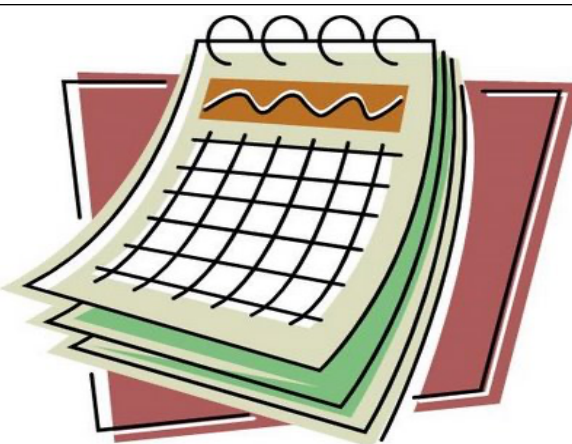
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2025

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Scan the QR Code to access the School Calendar

**QR Code for SPPS 2024-25 Calendars
English, Hmong, Karen, Spanish, Somali**

Link for more languages:

<https://www.spps.org/about/calendar>