



SSPPS

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

July 10, 2025



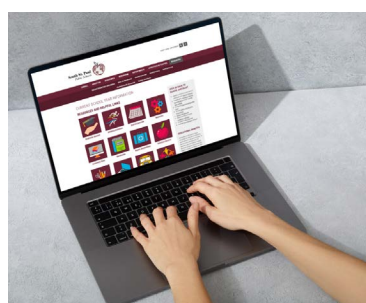
Transportation for 2025-26 School Year

Each year we ask our families to accept or decline their student's transportation for the coming school year. This helps us make any unused seats available, as soon as possible, to those interested in the pay-to-ride transportation option. If you qualify according to the [District-Provided transportation boundary](#) (elementary students living 1.0 miles or more from assigned school and 1.5 for secondary students), [Please fill out this survey to accept or decline](#) your student's transportation for the 2025-26 school year. If you are unsure of whether or not you qualify and cannot find your address on the [interactive map](#), contact our transportation office at eryan@sspps.org.



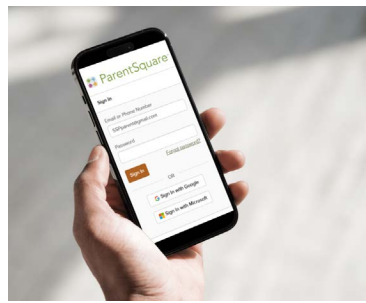
Pay-to-Ride Transportation Wait List

Each year we ask our families to accept or decline their student's transportation for the coming school year. This helps us make any unused seats available, as soon as possible, to those interested in the pay-to-ride transportation option. If you qualify according to the [District-Provided transportation boundary](#) (elementary students living 1.0 miles or more from assigned school and 1.5 for secondary students), [Please fill out this survey to accept or decline](#) your student's transportation for the 2025-26 school year. If you are unsure of whether or not you qualify and cannot find your address on the [interactive map](#), contact our transportation office at eryan@sspps.org.



Get Ready for the 2025-26 School Year

Whether you're planning your family calendar or shopping for school supplies, we've made it easy to find everything you need in one place. Visit our [School Year Resources](#) page for key dates, supply lists, transportation info, and more to help you prepare for a smooth start to the new school year. This webpage is continuously updated throughout the summer. Check back regularly for the most up-to-date information.



ParentSquare

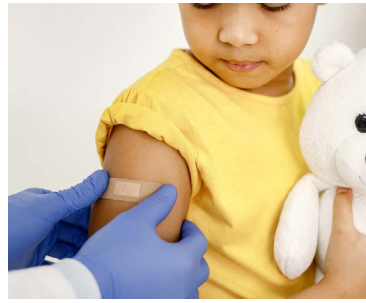
South St. Paul Schools uses [ParentSquare](#) for school to home communications. ParentSquare is a simple, safe, and reliable way to stay connected. Families with an email on file will automatically receive an invitation to activate their account (check your inbox!). While you can still receive messages without activating, creating your account lets you reply, sign forms, interact with staff, and more. To get the best experience, download the app!

- iOS App - [Apple Store](#)
- Android App - [Google Play Store](#)



HelpMe App

SSPPS partners with STOPit Solutions to bring [HELMe](#), a 24/7/365 technology platform, into our school community. HELPMe is designed to provide invaluable assistance to our students, families, and staff, offering a private and accessible way to access a wide array of resources and support. We encourage families to also [download the HELPMe app](#) and search for our district with the access code SSPpackers. You can privately ask for help for your student, family, others you care about, or even acquaintances who appear to need help.



No Shots, No School

Minnesota law ([early learning, K-12](#)) requires students to be vaccinated or have an exemption on file before starting school. In particular, students going into Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten need to have their immunization record on file and students going into 7th and 12th may need new or booster vaccinations.

If you need help obtaining immunizations for your student:

- [HealthPartners' No Shots, No School](#) program has free immunizations for children
- [Dakota County Health](#) also offers free vaccinations for uninsured families

Upcoming Free Vaccinations Clinics in SSP:

- August 20, 2025 3-5 pm at Kaposia Education Center
- August 28, 2025 3-6 pm at SSP Secondary

[Visit the website for more information](#). When completed, send your updated immunization records to your student's school nurse:

- Grades PreK-5: kayla.rogers@sspps.org
- Grades 6-12: jhove@sspps.org



Educational Benefits Applications Determine State Funding for SSPPS

While all students will receive one free breakfast and lunch each day through the Free School Meals for Kids legislation, SSPPS still needs you to complete or opt out of the 2025-26 Educational Benefits Application. Completed applications determine how much funding your child's school receives from the state for educational programs and other supports. In addition, qualifying families may be eligible for a variety of discounts. Applications will be available in the coming days. [Visit our website](#) for more information and to complete an application when posted.

Back-to-School Checklist

- Complete [Educational Benefits form](#)
- Review [Safety and Security Procedures](#)
- Save the back-to-school dates (below)
- Download the [printable academic calendar](#)
- Review [Handbooks](#)
- If applicable, [accept or decline transportation](#)
- If applicable, fill out [transportation pay-to-ride form](#)
- If applicable (grades PreK/K, 7, and 12), send in updated immunization form
- Download [HELMe App](#)
- Activate [ParentSquare account](#) when prompted and download the app

Important Back-to-School Dates

First Days of School

- Grades 1-5, 6, 9, and 12: Tuesday, September 2, 2025
- Grades Kindergarten, 7-8, and 10-11: Wednesday, September 3, 2025
- Preschool: Thursday, September 4, 2025

Secondary Packer Essentials Days

Students will pick up schedules and locker information, can meet with the nurse and turn in immunization forms, setup educational benefits with nutrition services, and have their school photo taken at this open house event.

- Thursday, August 14 and Monday, August 18
- 12:00-3:00 pm and 4:00-7:00 pm

Secondary Family Connect Days (6-12)

On August 25, teachers will send an invitation to families inviting them to select and sign up for a connection time during the following dates/times:

- Wednesday, August 27 (2:30-6:00 pm)
- Friday, August 29 (9:00 am-1:00 pm)

CLC Family Connect Day

- Wednesday, August 27
- 2:30-6:00 pm

Elementary Family Connection Day and Kids' Choice Open House

Lincoln Center and Kaposia

- Thursday, August 28
- 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Kindergarten Family Connection Day

Tuesday, September 2

- Lincoln: 7:30 am-3:30 pm
- Kaposia: 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Preschool Parent Meeting & Orientation

Lincoln Center and Kaposia

- September 3-6

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) Open House

- Wednesday, September 3
- 5:30-7:00 pm

[View the full District Calendar](#)