



THE WINDS
OCTOBER 1, 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

- Oct. 1 PTA Family Pizza Party, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Oct. 2 **No School - Yom Kippur**
Oct. 6 Principal's Challenge Recognition Event, 9:30 a.m.
Oct. 9 Conferences, 3-7 p.m.
Oct. 9 School Pictures 4-7 p.m. (Media Center)
Oct. 10 Conferences 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Oct. 10 School Pictures, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (Media Center)
Oct. 14-15 Principal's Challenge Trifecta Pizza Parties
Oct. 16-17 **No School - MEA**

[District Calendar](#)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Principal's Challenge – Thank you to all the students who participated in the Principal's Challenge this summer. We will have a ceremony to honor those students on October 6 at 9:30 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend.

Conferences - Sign up for conferences is available in Skyward. Sign up will close at 12 p.m. on October 8.

- Thursday, October 9, from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - In-person conferences
- Friday, October 10, from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. – In-person and Google Meet conferences

Conferences will consist of a blended model this year. The blended model includes offering in-person conferences and conferences over Google Meets. Your student's teacher can provide more information about their conference scheduling options. Our school values parent/teacher conferences and we typically have over 98% participation by parents. Conferences are an important time to connect and build the home/school partnership.

School pictures will take place during Conferences on October 9 and 10 during conferences. Order information will be emailed to parents/guardians after picture days.

- Oct. 9 School Pictures, 4-7 p.m.
Oct. 10 School Pictures 8 a.m.- 2p.m.

**Picture Retake Day is Wednesday, November 13.*

Deephaven Leaders in Action (formerly called student leadership) is starting soon! Any 5th grade student who is interested in assisting with service-learning projects that will develop their leadership skills are welcome to apply to the group. Meetings will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 2:45-3:45 in the Joe Sherry's room (meetings are not every Wednesday, a schedule will be handed out at our first meeting). Parents are responsible for transportation home and students are required to fully complete the application packet in order to attend. **Our first meeting is Wednesday, October 22!** Students who were interested in the group

received the application packet on September 30th. The application packets are due on October 13th, and no late applications will be accepted.

It is Custodian Appreciation Week! Deephaven's custodians, Jeff(head custodian), along with Anthony and Keith (night custodians) do a great job of keeping our school clean for our students and staff. Thank you, guys, for all of your hard work! You can send them a quick message of thanks at

DHE.Custodian@minnetonkaschools.org

Lines of communication are established at Deephaven to resolve a concern efficiently and effectively. We ask that you contact the following people in this order.

1. The adult closest to the situation.
2. Your child's teacher.
3. The Behavior Manager.
4. The Principal or Assistant Principal.
5. The Superintendent.
6. The School Board.

If your concern is not resolved, please contact the next person on the list. We believe most concerns can be resolved by contacting the adult closest to the situation.

School Board Report, October 9 - Deephaven School Report

Deephaven will highlight the theme of **Connections**, emphasizing how relationships are forming to support student growth, emerging leadership, and literacy. Students preparing to join our leadership program are already showing excitement and purpose, sharing their hopes and goals for the year ahead. Literacy continues to be a powerful connector in our classrooms—students are engaging deeply with texts and one another, building both academic skills and a sense of community. Early wins in instruction reflect strong implementation, high engagement, and strong momentum as we begin the year.

Booster Seat Requirements As of August 1, 2024, Minnesota's child passenger safety laws include the following:

- Birth to at least 2 years old: Rear-facing in an infant or convertible child safety seat.
- At least 2 years old AND has outgrown the rear-facing seat with internal harness by height or weight: Forward-facing with an internal harness.
- 4 years old AND has outgrown the forward-facing seat with internal harness by height or weight: Ride restrained in a belt-positioning booster seat using the lap belt and shoulder belt.
- 9 years old or has outgrown the booster seat AND the child can pass the five-step test that demonstrates how the seat belt fits correctly: Ride restrained with a lap belt and shoulder belt secured correctly on the vehicle seat.
- Additionally, children under 13 years old must sit in the back seat if possible.

Read at Home - All students are asked to read at home 20-30 minutes a night. This includes reading to your child if he/she is not an independent reader.

Bully Prevention Month - October is Bullying Prevention Month and students will be learning about bullying—what it is, how to recognize it, and how to respond—through our new **CharacterStrong** curriculum. These lessons are designed to empower students to build a safe and inclusive school environment. Our school-wide character theme for October is Responsibility. Throughout the month, students will engage in activities and discussions that help them understand what it means to be responsible at school, at home, and

in their community. Thank you for your continued support in helping our students grow into kind, responsible, and respectful individuals.

*Please see the family newsletter included below on Bully Prevention, which will give you a sneak peak into what students will be learning about this month and year.

No School on Friday, October 10 due to parent/teacher conferences.

No School on Thursday, October 16 and Friday, October 17 (MEA).

Deephaven Lift Station L48 Improvements

Access Impacts: On Cottagewood Road, crews continue to work on both ends of road (near Manor Road and near Minnetonka Boulevard). To continue to facilitate safe and efficient construction, Cottagewood Road is expected to be closed to through-traffic through November. We will share timeline updates as they become available.

Contact Us: For assistance, call 952-952-9912

CHARACTER STRONG

October Theme: Kindness

Kindness is the choice to use our time, actions, and resources to better the lives of others and ourselves! Kindness involves all the different ways we express care, concern, and consideration for ourselves and those with whom we share the world. This month we will pay attention to the opportunities we have to choose kindness.

SUPPORTING READING AT HOME

Expand Vocabulary

- Word Games: Engage in activities that introduce new words. [Discuss the meanings of new words encountered in books or daily conversations.](#)
- Labeling: [Label objects around the house to help your child learn new words and their meanings.](#)

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Calling all Volunteers! The Health Office is looking for volunteers on **Wednesday, Oct. 22nd** to help with hearing & vision screenings for our 1st, 3rd & 5th graders. No previous experience is necessary, volunteers will be trained that day. Please check [Membership Toolkit](#) for details. We ask that you commit to the entire time frame as it will be a jam-packed day and it is difficult to train and insert volunteers once the process starts.

Thank you in advance for your help! We could not provide these important screenings without the help of our awesome Deephaven volunteers!

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking for some fun family activities during MEA break? Think about building some volunteering into your plans! Studies confirm that people of any age benefit mentally & physically from volunteering. It's a great time to spend an hour or two making a difference in other people's lives and teaching your children that it feels good to think about others!

You might consider:

- Making a tie-blanket for pediatric patients at [Children's Hospital](#) or for youth moving into transitional housing through [My Very Own Bed](#) or campers at [Camp Noah](#)

- Coordinating a winter wear drive for [ResourceWest](#) to help families in the Minnetonka area experiencing life challenges
- Packing meals for individuals in our local & global communities experiencing food insecurity with [The Humanity Alliance](#), [Loaves & Fishes](#), or [Feed My Starving Children](#)
- Raking an elderly neighbor's yard or contacting [Senior Community Services](#) to get placed with a person in need
- Building a scarecrow for the [Lowry Nature Center's Enchanted Forest](#) event
- Decorating cards for local senior residences or scheduling a time to help with their activities (Bingo, crafts, and entertainment)

Want to access more ideas and resources?

Visit [Doing Good Together](#) and [tonkaserves.org](#) or contact Sarah Johnson, Community Service Specialist, at sarah.johnson@minnetonkaschools.org

PTA PULSE

Pizza Party TONIGHT! - Oct 1 4:30-6:30 pm. Join us for pizza, music, RAFFLE PRIZES, and good company. If you haven't already purchased a ticket - bring a picnic dinner and join us! **Bring your own water bottle.** Raffle tickets are sold at the event, \$1 each. To participate in the raffle, bring cash. Pizza generously donated by JETS in Minnetonka. We hope to see you there!

Become a Deephaven PTA Sponsor Ready to make a big impact with a small investment? Become a Deephaven Elementary PTA sponsor and help our school community thrive! Sponsors help the PTA deliver enrichment programs, classroom resources, fund teacher grants and are front and center at school community events. Learn more by contacting Sponsorship@deephavenpta.com.

2025-26 Yearbooks for Sale Yearbooks are on sale for the lowest price of the year! Get them now and check this off your to do list. [Order yearbooks here](#). We also have a few extra yearbooks from last year for \$10. Please email deephavenyearbook1@gmail.com to get one!

BULLYING PREVENTION

Family Connection

Purposeful
People

Overview

To help students achieve their best and make schools safe and welcoming, we need more than just anti-bullying policies. CharacterStrong uses strategies that are proven to work and focus on key social and emotional skills. In the curriculum, students will experience a blend of anti-bullying methods with other important skills like empathy, communication, and resilience. This helps schools deal with bullying better while also teaching students to understand and care for each other. This approach makes it easier for schools to embrace bullying prevention strategies and build an environment of kindness and respect.

What is bullying?

Bullying is **hurtful** and **repeated**, but it also...

- Is unwanted physical or emotional pain
- Involves an imbalance of power
- Can happen online (cyberbullying)



Conversation Starters



- What are some ways you can include others and make sure everyone feels welcome?
- How can you report bullying?

Book Recommendations

- **The Juice Box Bully: Empowering Kids to Stand Up for Others** by Bob Sornson and Maria Desmond
- **The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade** by Justin Roberts

BULLYING PREVENTION

PurposeFULL
People

PurposeFull Pursuit

With your student, review the scenario below and practice using the stoplight as a way to respond to bullying. Create more scenarios that are relevant to your student for additional practice.

During recess, Arisha loves to sit down and draw in her notebook. But every day for the past week, Sonia grabs her notebook and rips the drawing she is working on. Arisha feels embarrassed and sad that her drawings are ruined. She doesn't know what to do. She wants to tell a teacher, but she is afraid it will make things worse.

- Is this bullying or not? How do you know?
- What should you do if this is happening to you?
- What should you do if you notice this is happening to someone else?



- Speak up
- Remove
- Distract

- Show comfort
- Invite others over
- Ask questions

- Get help
- Find an adult
- Call it out / name it

Additional Family Resources

Access our Bullying Prevention family page to learn more!



[Characterstrong.com/bullying-prevention](https://characterstrong.com/bullying-prevention)