



**THE WINDS**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2025**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Dec. 8-15      Tonka Coders and Makers Week  
Dec. 17      Deephaven Leaders in Action, 2:45-3:45  
Dec. 22-Jan. 2 **No School** - Winter Break  
Jan. 5      **No School** - Professional Learning Day

[District Calendar](#)

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**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

**No School December 22 - January 2** - Winter Break  
**No School January 5** - Staff Professional Learning Day  
School resumes Tuesday, January 6.

**Deephaven Leaders in Action** is having their annual Toys for Tots drive. It began Monday, December 8 and ends Friday, December 12. If you are able to donate, please send a NEW unwrapped toy to your child's class by Friday, December 12. Student Leadership will collect the toys from each classroom daily. All of Deephaven's donations will be dropped off December 17. Thank you for your support again this year!

**Resources for Families with Questions about Immigration Enforcement**

Minnetonka Public Schools is committed to the well-being and safety of all of our students, families and staff. Recent federal actions have raised questions from families regarding immigration. Visit [this webpage](#) for a list of community resources

**Tonka Coders and Makers Week**

Students at Deephaven are celebrating Tonka Coders and Makers Week from December 8 to 15. This celebration gives us a chance to dive deep into the enjoyment of coding, making and STEM, and integrate it into our daily learning! All students will experience a coding or making integrated lesson during media class. Each grade level will also build and code their own "app" in Scratch jr. to reinforce a cross-curricular topic.

Teachers may also choose between a variety of other coding, making and STEM experiences for their class, including a short lesson on binary numbers and their use in computer hardware and complete a binary coloring sheet to display in the hallway, a STEM building challenge with materials from the HUB, or learning the basic concepts of AI in a kid-appropriate module produced by Code.org.

STEM challenges available with HUB materials include: Kindergarteners working with Beebots; first graders examining light and shadows with Keva planks and Magna Tiles; second graders using Straw Building kits, MakeDo plastic screws, tools, and cardboard to build basic shelters; third programming an Ozobot to navigate a maze; fourth graders building their own functional video game controller with a Makey Makey and paper

circuits or build with mirrors to solve light puzzles, and fifth graders experimenting with programming a Sphero robot to roll in the shape they choose.

We will track our hours of coding and making to try and reach a goal of 700 total hours as a school. Students can count time at school and at home. Please have your student tell their teacher about any time they code, build, or make at home so it can be added to our school total! Come see a graph of our progress during the week in the hallway near the entryway and Health Office!

**There will be no Winds newsletter next week.**

**Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Building Representative** can be contacted at any time if you have questions or would like a connection within the building. Please reach out to Morgan Minich, [morgroberts@gmail.com](mailto:morgroberts@gmail.com).

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## CHARACTER STRONG

**December's theme is Empathy.**

Empathy means understanding and connecting with the feelings of others.

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## SUPPORTING READING AT HOME

**Create a Literacy-Rich Environment**

- **Access to Books:** Ensure your home has a variety of age-appropriate books. [Visit the library regularly to keep the selection fresh.](#)
- **Model Reading:** Let your child see you reading regularly. [This sets a positive example and shows that reading is a valuable activity.](#)

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## PTA PULSE

**Parent Party Committee** - Join us! Want to help plan the most fun night of the year? Join the Parent Party Team! It's a great way to get involved, meet other parents, and help make this year's event unforgettable. We'll have our first meeting on December 16. Email Kelli Deeg [president@deephavenpta.com](mailto:president@deephavenpta.com) to join the crew!

**Read-a-thon Committee** - The Read-a-thon will happen again this year in February and we're starting to plan! Reach out to Kelli Deeg at [president@deephavenpta.com](mailto:president@deephavenpta.com) or Lindsey Prall at [readathon@deephavenpta.com](mailto:readathon@deephavenpta.com) to join in the fun.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

**Registration is now open for the Minnetonka Theatre Elementary Musical production** of Disney's *101 Dalmatians KIDS!* Celebrating our 15th year, this elementary musical program is specifically designed for Minnetonka Public School 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who are interested in trying out musical theatre. Information, including a detailed schedule and how to register, is available on the [Minnetonka Theatre website](#). Any questions, please contact Amy Jore at [amy.jore@minnetonkaschools.org](mailto:amy.jore@minnetonkaschools.org).