



# January 28, 2026

Monthly news and updates

## Building Bond/Capital Levy-A Legacy Worth Protecting

The SSP School Board has approved a special election on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, that will include two questions on the ballot, a Building Bond and a Renewal of the current Capital Projects Levy.



South St. Paul voters will be asked to consider a school bond referendum focused on maintaining the facilities that have served our community for more than a century. For more than 100 years, South St. Paul Public Schools has been a source of Packer Pride and a cornerstone of our community. As buildings age and needs evolve, the district has worked with families, staff, and community members to create a responsible, long-term plan for facility care. This proposal is intentionally limited in scope and focused on needs, not wants, ensuring schools remain safe, functional, accessible, and welcoming, while being mindful of taxpayer impact.

The second question on the ballot would renew the Capital Projects Levy that is already in place. This levy helps support safety, security, and technology needs across the district. Renewing this levy would maintain the current levy rate after it is scheduled to expire in 2029, resulting in no new tax increase.

Read more about the [\*\*Building Bond/Capital Levy\*\*](#) on our website.

## Middle School Information Tours

Future Middle School families are invited to explore SSP Secondary and discover what makes South St. Paul Public Schools a special place for students. The visit will begin with a short, informative session, followed by a guided tour of our bright, welcoming spaces. Families will have the opportunity to visit the Cafeteria, Media Center, Offices, Gymnasium, Locker Areas, and our Core and Specialist Classrooms, offering a firsthand look at daily life and learning in our Middle School..



Tours will be held at these dates and times:

- Tuesday, February 17 at 5:00 pm ([FB Event Page](#))
- Monday, February 23 at 5:00 pm ([FB Event Page](#))
- Monday, March 9 at 10:00 am ([FB Event Page](#))
- Thursday, March 12 at 5:00 pm ([FB Event Page](#))
- Wednesday, April 8 and 5:00 pm (también en español) ([FB Event Page](#))

## Preschool Information Night

We are excited to welcome our 2026–27 preschoolers to South St. Paul Public Schools, where the learning journey begins. Preschool is a joyful and important first step, helping children feel confident in a classroom, build relationships with caring teachers and classmates, and explore early learning through play and discovery. These early experiences lay the foundation for essential skills and set students on a strong start along their Packer Pathway.



- **Kaposia Education Center:** Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 6:00 pm
- **Lincoln Center:** Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm

## Community Ed Enrichment Opportunities

Check out these upcoming enrichment activities through SSP Community Education for all ages. You can register for these and future events at

<https://tridistrict.ce.eleyo.com/>.

- [Free Adult Education Classes](#)
- [Cookie Monsters for Kids and Parents](#)
- [Gymnastics - Mini Camp](#)
- [Certified Babysitter's Training \(Ages 11 & Up\)](#)
- [Easy CPR for Babysitters and Teens](#)

# Packer Pride in Action



## Triple "A" Award Winners

Congratulations this year's **Triple "A" Award Winners** from South St. Paul- Alexander S and Cortney S! The Academic, Arts, and Athletic Award honors high school seniors throughout Minnesota who have a 3.0 GPA or higher and who participate in athletic and fine arts

activities.



## Visit From MN Commissioner of Education

The Minnesota Commissioner of Education, Dr. Willie Jett, visited the Middle School this week to engage with a 6th grade social studies classes. Students asked thoughtful questions and learned about his job, his life, and what it means to serve as a commissioner. The visit helped students better understand how decisions at the state level can impact them, their school, and their community.



## Hands-On Learning- Phases of the Moon

Hands-on learning in action! Our 6th grade scientists are exploring the phases of the moon by experimenting with mini "moons" and a central light source. They're discovering how the moon's movement changes what we see from Earth.



## Bringing Lessons to Life

First graders at Kaposia wrapped up their Creature Feature unit by creating creatures of their very own! They designed the features of their creatures to demonstrate their learning of how body parts can be useful to help animals survive and grow in their different habitats.

### **Board Organizational Items**

- The Board completed its annual organizational actions for 2026, including the selection of officers. For 2026, Kim Humann will serve as Chair, Anne Claflin as Vice Chair, Paul Cumings as Treasurer, and Wendy Felton as Clerk.

### **Secondary Teaching and Learning**

- The Board received an update on the district's secondary curriculum review process for grades 6–12. This ongoing work includes reviewing standards, instructional practices, and resources across subject areas to ensure strong alignment and continuous improvement in teaching and learning.

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

- The Board received an overview of student mental health and wellness supports and ongoing efforts to strengthen services across the district.

### **Budget Guiding Change**

- The Board reviewed the proposed 2026–27 Budget Guiding Change to help inform priorities for the upcoming budget.

### **Kids' Choice (SAC) and Community Preschool Fees**

- The Board approved fee adjustments for Kids' Choice and Community Preschool programs for the 2026–27 school year.

### **Potential May 12, 2026 Special Election**

- The Board approved a resolution to call a May 12, 2026 special election related to facility needs and long-term financial planning.

### **FY 2024–25 Audit Approval**

- The Board approved the district's 2024–25 audit, which received a clean, unmodified opinion.

### **Quality in Action, Middle School Curriculum Update**

- The Board received an update on Middle School English Language Arts and Science curriculum implementation, including Arts and Letters and Amplify Science.

### **MSBA Director's Award**

- The Board recognized Director Kim Humann on receiving the 2026 MSBA Director's Award for completing extensive MSBA professional learning.

### **Learn More**

Full meeting minutes and materials are available on the district website.

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- **February 6**, No School
- **February 16**, No School- District Holiday
- **March 9-10**, No School- Elementary Conferences
- **March 12**, No School for Grades 9, 10, 12- 11th grade takes ACT, PreK-8 in school
- **March 30-April 3**, Spring Break

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If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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