



THE WINDS
FEBRUARY 4, 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 2-6	National School Counseling Week
Feb. 3	Lighthouse Publishing Event, 9 a.m. (Media Center) (rescheduled)
Feb. 4	Grade 5 Band Concert, 6:30 p.m. (Front Gym)
Feb. 6	Read-a-Thon Cozy Up With A Book PJ Day
Feb. 11	Deephaven Leaders in Action, 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Feb. 16	No School - Presidents' Day

[District Calendar](#)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Out for Foot Surgery – I will be out of the building from February 3–13 for a scheduled foot surgery. Our wonderful reserve principal, Nancy Wittman-Beltz, will be supporting the school on select days while I am away. Nancy is a highly experienced and trusted educator, and will work in collaboration with our assistant principal, Josh Jansen, to ensure everything continues to run smoothly. Thank you for your support and understanding and I look forward to being back with our students soon!

Email address for Nancy Whittman-Beltz: Nancy.Wittman-Beltz@minnetonkaschools.org

National School Counseling Week is this week. Thank you, **Mika Wallace**, Deephaven's counselor, for all you do to support our students. Whether you are meeting with one student, a group of students, or talking to an entire class, you make a huge difference in the lives of our students.

No School Monday, February 16 - Presidents Day

Black History Month – Classrooms will feature daily highlights of different African American leaders from all walks of life. Our morning announcements will share stories of leaders and their journey to becoming influential role models in the black community and beyond. The media center will also continue to feature black authors and encourage our students to explore these stories.

Spring Conferences – Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 5, from 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (in person) and on Friday, March 6, from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (virtually). Our goal is to have all our parents participate. You will be receiving an email on **Wednesday, February 18 at 5 p.m.** with instructions on how to sign up for conferences. Please work directly with your child's teacher if you would like to meet in person on Friday. **The deadline to sign up for conferences/make changes is Wednesday, March 4 at 4 p.m.**

Yearbook Orders The ordering window is open for a few more weeks. **Final deadline to order is February 22.** Get your order in now before you forget! **Order yearbooks [here](#).** If you've already ordered, no action is needed. If you can't remember if you've ordered or other questions? Email deephavenyearbook1@gmail.com.

Lines of Communication at Deephaven - Begin with the adult closest to the situation. Following our lines of communication allows for staff involved to resolve the concern.

1. Staff member involved
2. Classroom teacher
3. Health/attendance office
4. Principal/Assistant Principal
5. Superintendent

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.

CHARACTER STRONG

This month's focus is Honesty. One way to think about Honesty is "being truthful in what you say and do." Practicing Honesty helps strengthen our relationships and even reduces stress. Honesty is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students Be Well. Across grade levels, students will be developing skills like emotion regulation, positive self-talk, and stress-management. See this month's Character Strong Newsletter for more information.

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

Valentine's Day can be a challenging day for students with life-threatening food allergies. Many types of chocolates and other candies contain common food allergens like dairy, peanuts and tree nuts. Please check nutrition labels before sending any food/ candy items to school. Some classrooms have other specific food guidelines as well, so please check with your child's teacher. We would like to encourage you to consider non-food treats for Valentine's Day. Thanks for your help in ensuring fun, safe and inclusive celebrations.

PTA PULSE

Read-a-thon | February 1 - 24

The Read-A-Thon is off and running! As our school's largest fundraiser, the Read-A-Thon supports so many important programs including field trips, teacher grants, STEM events, new library books, and educational apps like IXL and Lexia—and so much more. To celebrate the first week of the Read-a-thon this Friday, February 6th is Cozy Up with a Book and Read - PJ Day.

- **How to Participate:** Register your student in [PledgeStar](#). All students registered in Pledgestar are entered into a weekly drawing to win gift cards and books. Students that enter 5 donation - pledge requests by this Saturday, February 7th through PledgeStar win a fidget and enter a raffle to win a fun toy. This is about community - support our students and school!
- **We need volunteers.** The Read-A-Thon is looking for volunteers with many roles requiring less than two hours of time. Sign up on [membership toolkit](#).

DEEPHAVEN

MONTHLY SEL NEWSLETTER



THEME: Honesty

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Watch Honesty video



Conversation Starters:

Can you share or show what it means to practice Honesty?

What is 1 way you can be more Honest with others?

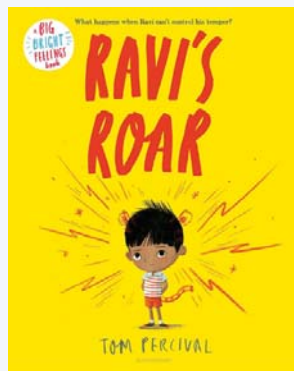
Literacy Connection

I Love to Read Month

Ravi's Roar

Written and illustrated by Tom Percival

Ravi has had enough of being the smallest in his family and becomes so furious that he becomes a roaring, ferocious tiger! But, it turns out nobody wants to play with a growling tiger. Ravi learns to be Honest about his feelings and take Responsibility for his actions.



Reflect: Words have Power



How could this quote **inspire** you or others?
Why is **honesty** challenging sometimes?

Home Connection

1) Review Honesty as a family! Honesty is being truthful in what you say and do. Discuss the importance of being Honest and work together to create a family Honesty pledge. Create and decorate a sign together that explains what Honesty means in your family. Have each family member sign the pledge and choose a spot to display it. Refer back to the pledge as a reminder to be Honest and to celebrate when Honesty is practiced!

2) Set aside some time to gather as a family and check in with each other. Ask each family member, "How are you feeling today?" Practice Honesty when responding and listen carefully as each family member shares. Use the emotion check-in questions to learn more. Challenge yourselves to check in with each other on a regular basis!

Emotion Check-In Questions:

- Tell me more about that feeling.
- Why do you think you are feeling that emotion?
- What do you need right now?

Coping Skill of the Month

Break it Down

Teaching children to break big tasks into small steps helps them feel less overwhelmed and manage their responsibilities more easily. Encourage your child to think about how they can divide a large task into smaller, more manageable parts. For example, instead of just saying "clean your room," ask them what needs to happen for their room to be clean. Guide them to list steps like "put toys away" and "make the bed." This not only makes the task less overwhelming but also empowers them to take control and plan their own work. As they practice this skill, they'll become more confident and independent in handling tasks, homework, and other responsibilities.