



THE WINDS
FEBRUARY 11, 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 11 Deephaven Leaders in Action, 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Feb. 11 Deephaven Dad's Night Out, 6:30 p.m. (Excelsior Brewery)
Feb. 16 **No School** - Presidents' Day
Feb. 25 Wacky Wednesday: Book Character Day

[District Calendar](#)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

No School Monday, February 16 - Presidents Day

Read-a-Thon continues through the end of February. Please see the PTA Pulse for more details.

Nominations Open for Celebration of Excellence When you think of excellence in the Minnetonka Public School District, is there a person who comes to mind who helps to make the District exceptional? A teacher? A para? A staff member? A volunteer in the schools?

[Nominate that person today](#) for a Minnetonka Schools Child-centered Excellence Award. Nominations are now open through February 28, 2026.

Award categories include:

- Award for Child-centered Excellence in Teaching
- Award for Child-centered Excellence in Teaching E-learners
- Bradley G. Board Award for Excellence in Elementary Education
- Joyce Gustafson Memorial Award
- Minnetonka Employee Award for Child-centered Excellence
- Team Award for Child-centered Collaboration
- Spinnaker Award (for community members' volunteerism and efforts in support of schools)

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.**

Cars backing up onto the bridge – Per the Deephaven Police, cars are not allowed to stage on the bridge when waiting in the pick-up or drop-off line at Deephaven. Cars that wait on the bridge reduce visibility for cars leaving Deephaven and increase the chances of an accident. Please drive around the block until the line is shorter.

Heart Week 2025 (2/7-2/13)

Come together with MHS students and staff to raise money this week for Family Friends — a local nonprofit and school partner providing financial assistance to Minnetonka school district families to keep families in their homes, pay unexpected bills, and meet other essential needs.

Heart Week provides Family Friends its largest source of funding each year. Many Deephaven Elementary families have reached out asking what they can do support needs within our community. Requests to Family Friends has increased significantly, and we'd love to spread the word about this opportunity to expand Family Friends capacity to meet the needs of Minnetonka families during this particularly difficult season.

Please consider sharing with your networks! Together, we can share much needed love and show our community that we care. Learn more and donate [here](#).

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.

SUPPORTING READING AT HOME

Encourage Comprehension

- **Discuss Stories:** Before reading, look at the book cover and predict what the story might be about. During reading, ask questions about the plot and characters. [After reading, summarize the story together.](#)
- **Relate to Experiences:** [Connect the story to your child's own experiences to make it more relatable and memorable.](#)

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! It's absolutely not too late, enter your student into [Pledgestar](#) to participate. There are lots of reading and fundraising prizes up for grabs. And let's be honest... who doesn't want a squishmallow?

Week #2 Results: Through 2/8/26

- We're at 67% participation! Help us reach our goal of 95%!
- Students have read a total of 80,763 minutes! We're at 16% of our goal to read 500,000 minutes!
- We're at 59% of our goal to raise \$50,000.

The competition is heating up!

Classrooms have been participating in a friendly challenge - the class in each grade with the most minutes read will win \$150 to spend however they choose! Every minute counts — sign up your student and help their class rack up reading minutes.

We need volunteers. The Read-A-Thon is looking for volunteers for the culminating Rising Tide Event on Monday, March 2nd. Sign up on [membership toolkit](#).

Dads Night Out - Tonight! 6:30 p.m. Excelsior Brewing

Calling all Deephaven dads, step-dads, grandpas and caretakers to a night out at Excelsior Brewing tonight, February 11, at 6:30pm. It's a great opportunity for us to get together, relax, and enjoy some good food and drinks.

Save the Date: World Culture Night! Thursday, March 19, 4:30–6:00 p.m.

Join us for World Culture Night on **Thursday, March 19** at Deephaven Elementary. This special evening is a chance to celebrate the many cultures, traditions, and families that make up our school community. Interested in hosting a table? [Click here to sign up!](#) We can't wait to come together and celebrate our amazing Deephaven families.