

Engage

with the Minnetonka School Board

As your elected representatives, School Board members welcome questions and conversations related to governing the District. Board members actively engage with the community, attending advisory council meetings, serving on committees, and attending school and community meetings and events. Board members welcome invitations to your events and will make an effort to attend.

The School Board webpage at minnetonkaschools.org/schoolboard includes meeting dates, agendas, minutes and video recordings of each regular Board meeting. In addition, the District sends the School Board News email to currently enrolled families after each regular meeting. This communication includes a summary of Board action and a link to the video recording for each agenda item.

The School Board carefully reviews the results and comments submitted through the annual parent survey; in 2019, the Board evaluated more than 8,000 comments. This critical feedback informs the Board's planning and decision making year round.

You may communicate formally and informally with the School Board through:

Let's Talk

Use the Let's Talk form on the District website to submit questions, comments, suggestions, concerns or compliments.



Email

If you wish to communicate with the entire Board, please email: schoolboard@minnetonkaschools.org. All Board members will receive your correspondence; the Board Chair or Vice Chair responds to emails on behalf of the Board. Board member email addresses are published on the District website.

Telephone

For more complex or emotional topics, a phone call meeting may be most effective. Board member phone numbers are also published on the District website.

Personal Meetings

Constituents who wish to meet with individual School Board members may contact them directly to make arrangements.

Public Meetings

The Board meets at least monthly to conduct business and provide opportunities for public

input. Meetings and study sessions are held at the District Service Center. Here are the different options for public meetings and study sessions:

Community Comments is a standing agenda item at each regular meeting of the School Board, typically held the first Thursday of the month. Community Comments is an opportunity for you to address the Board regarding an item included on the agenda of the meeting in accordance with established guidelines for public comment.

Citizen Input is a standing agenda item at each School Board study session, typically held the third Thursday of the month. Citizen Input is an opportunity for you to address the Board regarding any topic (regardless of the agenda) within established guidelines for public comment.

(For Community Comments and Citizen Input, you will be asked to keep remarks to three minutes, and no remarks may be of a personal nature or address anyone aside from the School Board. Personnel concerns will not be heard by the Board at a meeting or study session. Personnel concerns should be directed first to a principal or the Executive Director of Human Resources, then to the Superintendent and finally, in writing, to the School Board.)

Message

from the Superintendent

This month's postcard to our community is about how our school board reaches out to everyone in the community about issues in our schools.

The challenges of communications in this era are about medium and content. There are so many ways to communicate, and different people communicate and want to receive communications differently. There are also variations in how much time different people want to spend on information from the District's teachers and officials. Some people read the *Star Tribune* from the front page to the last page every day, and they might watch morning and evening newscasts. Others never read a newspaper. Some rely on Twitter and Facebook for their news, and others never engage with either. Some like videos, and others prefer printed materials.

In that context, the District provides information to the community in various ways to reach everyone. It is also important to the District to receive lots of communication from the community. Our annual survey of parents provides important insights regarding how parents think about the programs, services and staff of the District. It is a highly reliable and valid survey of attitudes. The data are statistically significant because of the huge number of responses. Feedback to other surveys is critical and useful. We have advisory committees that provide great insights. Beyond those resources, we want to hear questions, comments and concerns that enable us to respond more fully regarding issues of importance.

Dr. Dennis Peterson, Superintendent



Katie Becker
Chair



Chris Vitale
Vice-Chair



Mike LeSage
Treasurer



John Holcomb
Clerk



Mark Ambrosen
Director



Christine Ritchie
Director



Lisa Wagner
Director

School board information on the District website: minnetonkaschools.org/schoolboard



Fiddler on the Roof

MHS Spring Musical
April 25-May 10
minnetonkatheatre.com
Box Office: 952-401-5898

Child-Centered Excellence Awards

The community is invited to submit nominations through February 28

When you think of excellence in the Minnetonka Public School District, is there a person who comes to mind? A teacher? A staff member? A volunteer in the schools? Whether you are a parent, student, staff member or community member, you have the opportunity to nominate that person for a Minnetonka Schools Child-Centered Excellence Award.

Award categories include:

- Bradley G. Board Award for Excellence in Elementary Education

- Charlie Parnell Memorial Award for Excellence in Special Education
- Minnetonka Employee Award for Child-Centered Excellence
- Minnetonka Award for Child-Centered Excellence in Teaching
- Team Award for Child-Centered Collaboration
- Joyce Gustafson Memorial Award



- Ross McGlasson Award for Leadership in Community Service

Award honorees, selected from the pool of nominations by a committee of past award honorees, will be recognized at the District's annual Celebration of Excellence Awards Ceremony on May 14, 2020.

Please take a few moments to learn more about the award categories and to acknowledge a school employee or community member for their dedication and impact at minnetonkaschools.org/celebrate

Nominations are open through February 28, 2020
at www.minnetonkaschools.org/celebrate



Minnetonka School District, ISD #276
Dennis Peterson, Ph.D., Superintendent
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, MN 55345

School Board
Katie Becker, Chair
Chris Viale, Vice Chair
Mike LeSage, Treasurer
John Holcomb, Clerk
Mark Ambrosen, Director
Christine Ritchie, Director
Lisa Wagner, Director

Minnetonka Schools Calendar

February 2020

February is Black History Month

- 11.....Gr 8-11 "Experience Minnetonka," 5:30-8pm, MHS
- 11.....School Board Regular Meeting, 7pm, DSC
- 13.....Heart Week Benefit Dinner, 5-7pm, MHS Cafeteria
- 14.....Two-Hour Early Release K-12
- 17.....No School K-12, DSC Closed, Presidents Day
- 14-23...MHS Winter Play: Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution" (minnetonkatheatre.com)
- 15.....Minnewashta Elem Musical, 1pm & 5pm, EXC Aud
- 20.....School Board Study Session, 6pm, DSC
- 20.....Parenting with Purpose: "A Path to Family Well-Being through the Science of Mind Body Medicine," 6:30-8:30pm, Arts Center
- 22.....Scenic Heights Elem Musical, 1pm & 5pm, EXC Aud
- 24.....Scenic Heights Gr 5 Band Concert, 7-8pm
- 26.....College Fair, 6-7:30pm, MHS Commons
- 27.....Excelsior Elem Gr 3 Music Program, 11am
- 27.....Groveland Groove, 5-8:30pm, Grace Church
- 27.....District Honor Band Concert, 5:15-5:45pm, MME
- 27.....District Jazz Concert, 7-9pm, MHS Arts Center
- 28.....Clear Springs Elem winter party, 6:30-8pm
- 28.....District Choral Festival, 7-8pm, Wooddale Church
- 29.....Deephaven Elem musical, 1pm & 5pm, EXC Aud
- 29.....Excelsior Elem "Love You to the Moon and Back Dance," 6-8pm, Excelsior Cafenadium

March 2020

- 5.....School Board Regular Meeting, 7pm, DSC
- 2.....District Orchestra Festival - MHS West Gym
West Side, 6-6:45pm for high school and Gr 4,7 (EX, MWA, CS, MMW); East Side, 7:30-8:15pm for high school and Gr 4,7 (DH, GRV, SH, MME)
- 5.....Parent/teacher conferences, 4-8pm
- 6.....No School, K-12, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 7.....Groveland Gala, 5:30pm-12am, Wayzata CC
- 9.....Scenic Heights Imagination Fair, 6-7:30pm
- 9.....Excelsior/Minnewashta Gr 5 Orchestra Concert, 6:30-7:30pm, Minnewashta
- 10.....Empty Bowls, 11am-7pm, Hopkins Ctr for the Arts
- 10.....Groveland Elem, Gr 2 Concert, 2:30pm and 7pm
- 12.....Honors Orchestra Concert, 7-7:45pm, Arts Center
- 12-14...MME Musical, 7pm each night, MME Cafetorium
- 14.....Clear Springs Elem Musical, 1pm & 5pm, EXC Aud
- 17.....District Band Festival - MHS West Gym
West Side, 6pm-6:45pm for high school and Gr 5,7 (EX, MWA, CS, MMW); East Side, 7:30-8:15pm for high school and Gr 5,7 (DH, GRV, SH, MME)
- 19.....School Board Study Session, 6pm, DSC
- 19.....Minnewashta Imagination Fair, 6-7:30pm
- 19-21...MMW All-School Musical, 7pm, MMW Cafe
- 21.....Groveland Elem Musical, 1pm & 5pm, EXC Aud
- 20.....Scenic Heights Talent Show, 6:30pm
- 20.....Clear Springs Elem Talent Show, 7pm
- 24.....Clear Springs Elem Gr 2 Music Program, 6:30pm
- 24.....Scenic Heights Gr 3 Choir Concert, 6:30pm
- 24.....Groveland Gr 5 Orchestra Recital, 7-7:45pm, EXC Aud
- 26.....End 3rd quarter
- 27.....No school K-12, grading and planning day
- 30-31...No school K-12, spring break

April 2020

- 1-3.....No school K-12, spring break
- 6.....Classes resume, begin 4th quarter
- 9.....School Board Regular Meeting, 7pm, DSC
- 10.....No school K-12, District Office Closed
- 14.....Clear Springs Elem Family Service Night, 6:30pm
- 14.....Scenic Heights Orchestra Concert, 7pm
- 16.....Volunteer Fair, MHS, 11am-1:40pm
- 16.....Groveland Elem Art Show, 5-7pm
- 16.....Excelsior Elem Gr 2 Music Program, 1:20pm, Aud
- 17-18...Tonka Pride Spring Sale: Friday, 3-7pm; Saturday, 8am-1pm, District Service Center
- 23.....Deephaven Student Art Exhibit, 5-7pm
- 23.....School Board Study Session, 6pm, DSC
- 24.....MME Gr 6-7 School Party, 4-6pm, MME
- 24.....Gr 5 Finale (for Clear Springs, Excelsior, Minnewashta), 6:30-8pm, MMW
- 24.....Clear Springs Elem Parent Party & Auction, 6:30pm
- 25.....Trash Into Treasure, 10am-1pm, MHS Parking Lot
- 25-May 10...MHS Spring Musical, "Fiddler on the Roof," (minnetonkatheatre.com)
- 27.....Two-hour late start K-12
- 28.....Gr 6 Band, Choir, Orchestra Concert: MMW, 6-7pm; MME, 7:45-8:30pm; MHS West Gym

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