

# KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT



## FOLLOW THE STEPS TO ENROLL FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Did you know? Even if you have other children attending school in Minnetonka Schools—you must complete the steps to enroll your child in Kindergarten.

The online form is at [minnetonkaschools.org/enroll](http://minnetonkaschools.org/enroll).

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

**Resident families:** The priority deadline for resident online enrollment is **January 31, 2019**. What do we mean by priority? Families must make an important decision for their Kindergartener: English (all elementary schools), Chinese Immersion (Excelsior and Scenic Heights) or Spanish Immersion (Deephaven, Clear Springs, Groveland and Minnewashta). Your first choice of language and school are given priority when you register by January 31. After that date, your first-choice schools or programs may be filled.

**Open-enrolled families:** The state deadline for open enrollment applications is **January 15, 2019**. There are several steps in the approval process outlined at [minnetonkaschools.org/oe-checklist](http://minnetonkaschools.org/oe-checklist). Families will be notified by February 15; at that time, they will be asked to complete the online approved open-enrollment registration.

### DISTRICT OF CHOICE

Minnetonka Public Schools is among the best-performing school districts—not just in Minnesota, but across the nation. Starting in Kindergarten, our primary goal is to inspire the love of learning in children through social and emotional teaching strategies. Our curriculum balances active, playful, hands-on learning with individual, small and large group instruction designed to nurture early academic skills and promote social development. Throughout the grade levels, our innovative programs

and extensive supports help each student succeed:

- K-5 computer coding
- Personalized, child-centered education
- 1:1 iPads in grades 5-12
- Unique programs for advanced learners in elementary school: Navigator, Wings, project-based learning and accelerated math and reading
- Before- and after-school childcare in Explorers Club

### ALL ARE INVITED TO INFORMATIVE ENROLLMENT EVENTS

*Preschool Story Hours are parent & child events, designed to provide a positive "first look" at school. Kindergarten Info Nights are designed for adults only.*

Location	Events in December 2018 and January 2019
Clear Springs Elementary 952-401-6950	December 4, Preschool Story Hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. January 10, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m.
Deephaven Elementary 952-401-6900	December 7, Preschool Story Hour, 9-10 a.m. January 10, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m.
Excelsior Elementary 952-401-5650	December 6, Preschool Story Hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. January 10, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m.
Groveland Elementary 952-401-5600	December 4, Preschool Story Hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. January 8, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m.
Minnewashta Elementary 952-401-5500	January 3, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m. January 8, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m.
Scenic Heights Elementary 952-401-5400	December 4, Preschool Story Hour, 9:30-10:30 a.m. January 8, Kindergarten Info Night, 6 p.m.
Kindergarten Webinar	December 12, 12-1 p.m. Register at <a href="http://bit.ly/TonkaKinders">http://bit.ly/TonkaKinders</a>

## EXPLORE MINNETONKA HIGH SCHOOL

Prospective students, join us **Monday, December 3** for the "Pizza with the Principal" event at MHS. Register at <http://bit.ly/PizzaDec3>

Students in grades 8-11 who are considering Minnetonka High School for 2019-20 are invited to attend Pizza with the Principal on **December 3** at 5 p.m. or 5:45 p.m. Prospective students will tour MHS, meet Principal Jeff Erickson and learn how to make the most of their high school experience. We'll discuss exciting options like AP, IB, Minnetonka Research, Tonka Online and VANTAGE Advanced Professional Studies.

## Message

from the Superintendent

Although we have just started the 2018-19 school year, it is already time to begin making decisions about the students we will have for 2019-20 and beyond. Kindergarten is a key time for each child, and it is a critical time for the School District to begin enrolling the 2019-20 Kindergarteners. Furthermore, the District must continue enrolling students in other grades as well. The District started this year with an all-time high for any grade in the system of 936 Kindergarteners. It was also encouraging to see an increase in resident Kindergarteners. No other district in the state has its largest class be Kindergarten. It gives the District a strong base for the next 13 years, as these students go through the system.

Enrollment sustainability is critical to the District, and these strong numbers in Kindergarten provide that stability. Without sustainability, the District would need to lay off staff, eliminate important programs and close schools. There are not enough resident students any more to provide that sustainability, and accepting non-residents will still be an important part of the future in Minnetonka. Just this year, the District is receiving over \$26 million in state aid for non-resident students. To give perspective to that \$26 million, the District receives \$24.8 million in the operating fund from local taxes. However, revenue in the future will flatten out as every school reaches its target enrollment. None of the schools will be at capacity next year, but they will be limited by the respective number of students that each school can reasonably serve.

Dr. Dennis Peterson, Superintendent

# News

from Minnetonka Schools  
(952) 401-5000  
www.minnetonkaschools.org



## Commitment to Cost-Saving, Renewable Energy

In 2013, Minnetonka Public Schools earned the EPA Energy Star Leader Status, even though our newest building at the time was originally built in 1967. This is a rare designation; many organizations have facilities with an Energy Star rating, but very few have earned the Energy Star Leader level across the entire organization.

The following facilities receive 100% of their annual kilowatt hours from wind and solar energy through the Xcel Energy Renewable Connect Program:

- Minnetonka High School campus, including MHS, Pagel Center Rink 1,\* Einer Anderson Field and Veterans Field
- Minnetonka Community Education Center
- District Service Center
- District Technology Center

Minnetonka Middle School East receives approximately 1,100,000 kilowatt hours of electricity from the SoCore Energy Nesvold 1 Community Solar Garden located in Watertown Township (Carver County). This is about 85% of the total kilowatt hours that the building draws annually.

After the Nokomis Energy Green Isle Community Solar Garden (Sibley County) is operational in summer 2019, Minnetonka Middle School West will

receive approximately 700,000 kilowatt hours—about 65% of the annual building draw—from this solar garden.

District administrators are in discussions with other community solar garden providers so that Minnetonka's six elementary schools can participate in projects currently under development.

The District has rebuilt all of its original boilers with modern, state-of-the-art burners and boiler interiors, and is switching to LED lights as fast as funding allows. All school parking lot lights, exterior security lights, hallway and gym lights are converted to LED, and work is ongoing in classrooms.

Minnewashta Elementary is 100% LED as of July 2017: In fiscal year 2018, Minnewashta used 19.2% less electricity than in fiscal year 2017. By January 1, all elementary schools will be converted to 100% LED with similar anticipated savings.

"We look at energy solutions as part of our daily work," said Paul Bourgeois, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, "because it saves money over the long term in addition to being beneficial to the environment."

*\* Pagel Rink 2 is owned by Minnetonka Youth Hockey Association and is on a separate meter.*



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

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MINNETONKA THEATRE PRESENTS

# SISTER ACT

A Divinely Inspired Musical Comedy!

December 8-23

minnetonkatheatre.com

## Minnetonka Schools Calendar

### November 2018

- 27...MHS Orchestra Concert, Arts Center, 7pm
- 29...MHS Band Concert, Arts Center, 7pm

### December 2018

- 3.....Pizza with the Principal for Prospective MHS Students, 5pm or 5:45 pm, MHS, RSVP <http://bit.ly/PizzaDec3>
- 4.....Preschool Story Hour, Groveland Elementary, 9:30am
- 4.....Preschool Story Hour, Scenic Heights Elementary, 9:30am
- 4.....Preschool Story Hour, Clear Springs Elementary, 9:30am
- 4.....Navigator Open House for Prospective Applicants, Excelsior Elementary, 10am
- 4.....Who are your people...in the Community? MHS Forum, 6pm
- 4.....MME Gr 6 Choir Concert, Cafeteria, 7pm
- 5.....Navigator Open House for Prospective Applicants, Scenic Heights Elementary, 1pm
- 6.....Preschool Story Hour, Excelsior Elementary, 9:30am
- 6.....Deephaven Gr 5 Choir Concert, Deephaven Tile Gym, 7pm
- 7.....Preschool Story Hour, Deephaven Elementary, 9am
- 7.....Tonka Pride Winter Store, District Service Center, 3-7pm
- 7-8...MMW Gr 6 Theatre Performance, various times
- 8.....Tonka Pride Winter Store, District Service Center, 8am-2pm
- 8-23...Holiday Musical "Sister Act," Arts Center, various times, [minnetonkatheatre.com](http://minnetonkatheatre.com)
- 10...Gr 5 Choir & Orchestra Concert, Clear Springs, 7pm
- 10...Gr 4/5 Orchestra Concert, Excelsior Elementary, 6:30pm
- 10...Gr 5 Choir & Orchestra Concert, Groveland, 7pm

- 11...MME Gr 7 Band & Jazz Ensemble, MME Cafeteria, 7pm
- 11...Gr 8 Orchestra and MHS Symphony Orchestra Concert, Arts Center, 7pm
- 12...Coffee and Play, MCEC, 11am
- 12...Webinar: Kindergarten Enrollment for 2019-20, 12pm, register at <http://bit.ly/TonkaKinders>
- 12...Gr 5 Choir Concert, Excelsior Elementary, 6:30pm
- 13...Gr 7 Winter Choir Concert, Minnewashta Elem Gym, 6:45pm
- 13...Gr 8 Band/Wind Ensemble Concert, Arts Center, 7pm
- 13...Gr 8 Winter Choir Concert, Minnewashta Elem Gym, 8pm
- 14...Gr 4/5 Orchestra Concert, Minnewashta Elementary, 6:30pm
- 17...Gr 7 Orchestra Concert, Minnetonka Middle East, 6:30pm
- 17...Winter Concert, Minnetonka Middle West, 6:30pm
- 17-18...MHS Choir Concert, Arts Center, 7pm
- 17..."Tis The Season: Big Feelings, Meltdowns..." MCEC, 7pm
- 17...Gr 7 Orchestra Concert, Minnetonka Middle East, 7:30pm
- 18...Gr 5 Choir Winter Concert, Minnewashta Elementary, 6pm
- 18...Gr 8 Girls Choir Concert, Minnetonka Middle East, 6:15pm
- 18...Gr 7 Band Concert, Minnetonka Middle West, 7pm
- 18...Music & Lyrics Winter Concert, Groveland, 7pm
- 20...Gr 8 Boys Choir Concert, Minnetonka Middle East, 7pm
- 24-25...No School K-12, Winter Break, District Office Closed
- 26-31...No School K-12, Winter Break

### January 2019

- 1.....No School K-12, New Year's Day, District Office Closed
- 2.....Classes Resume
- 3.....Kindergarten Information Night, Minnewashta, 6pm
- 8.....Kindergarten Information Night, Groveland, 6pm
- 8.....Kindergarten Information Night, Scenic Heights, 6pm
- 8.....Kindergarten Information Night, Minnewashta, 6pm
- 10...Kindergarten Information Night, Deephaven, 6pm
- 10...Kindergarten Information Night, Clear Springs, 6pm
- 10...Kindergarten Information Night, Excelsior Elem, 6pm
- 10...Gr 6 & Philharmonic Orchestra Concert, Arts Center, 7pm
- 14...Gr 4/5 Orchestra Concert, Scenic Heights Elementary, 7pm
- 15...Gr 6 Band Concert at MHS Arts Center: MME students, 6:15pm; MMW students, 7:45pm
- 17...Elementary Children's Choir Concert, Arts Center, 7pm
- 21...No School K-12, MLK Jr. Day, District Office Closed
- 23...Begin 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, Begin 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester
- 24...Gr 7 Choir Concert, Minnetonka Middle East, 6:30pm
- 26...2019-20 Preschool Open House, MCEC, 9:30am
- 28-Feb. 1...Paraprofessional Appreciation Week
- 28...Gr 5 Winter Choir Concert, Scenic Heights, 6:30pm
- 30...**New date!** 2019-20 Minnetonka Preschool, Preschool Explorers (MPE) and Junior Explorers registration opens 7:30am Register [www.minnetonka.ce.eyeyo.com](http://www.minnetonka.ce.eyeyo.com)
- 30...MHS Junior Parent Program, Arts Center, 7pm
- 31...Kindergarten Registration Deadline

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