



Minnewaska Area Schools

District 2149



Contents

2	District News	18	Activities
3	Calendar	20	2022 Fall Sports and Practice Information
5	School Supply Lists	21	Building and Grounds/Health Services
9	Elementary	22	Transportation
10	Middle School	23	Human Resources/New Staff Spotlight
11	High School	24	Technology
12	W.I.N. Academy/ECFE	25	Food and Nutrition Services
13	Little Lakers Preschool	26	Minnewaska Laker Foundation's Endowment Program
14	Before-school & After-school Fun		
15	Student Support Services		
16	Early Childhood Special Education & Early Intervention Services/Head Start		
17	Community Education		





A note from Chip Rankin, Superintendent of Schools



The start of each school year gives us another opportunity to reflect on the past, learn from our experiences, and look to the future. As we prepare to start the 2022-2023 school year, the safety of every student and staff member is at the center of every decision at Minnewaska Area Schools. Our goal at MAS is to shift toward a more typical educational experience as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to show signs of improvement. The challenges faced by our students, families, employees and community throughout the last two years cannot

be understated. Thank you to everyone for your assistance, patience, and support – you helped make a challenging situation manageable.

The shift back to a “normal” learning year is also a natural time for MAS staff to implement updated curriculum in math and science. We will also continue to add measures to improve our school safety protocols. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to be a school district that excels in academics, arts, and athletics. I am excited to see all of our students and staff continue the tradition of achieving amazing results!

GO LAKERS!

Engage every student, every day!

Candidate filing opens on Aug. 2 for four School Board seats. Three seats are four-year terms, while one seat is a two-year term. All four of the School Board seats of Independent School District 2149 are up for election in the Nov. 8, 2022, General School Board Election. The terms of Justin Zavadil, Nick Gugisberg, and Ted Reichmann expire on Jan. 2, 2023. The term of each of these three open positions is four years, from January 2023 to December 2026. Zach Lagred's term expires on Jan. 2, 2023; the term of this position is for two years, from January 2023 to January 2024. The two-week filing period for School Board candidates opens Tuesday, Aug. 2, at 7:30 a.m. and runs through Tuesday, Aug. 16, at 5 p.m. All candidates must file during this two-week period to be placed on the ballot. The School Board is responsible for developing policy that ensures the proper care, management, and control of district affairs and supporting the district's mission of “Engaging every student, every day.”

Any individual may be a candidate who:

- is eligible to vote;
- at least 21 years old upon assuming office (Jan. 2, 2023);
- is a resident of the school district for at least 30 days before the election, and;
- is not registered as a convicted sex offender.

Beginning Aug. 2, affidavits of candidacy will be available during office hours (7:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Monday through Thursday) in the Superintendent's Office of Independent School District 2149, 25122 State Hwy 28, Glenwood, Minn. Completed affidavits of candidacy must be filed at the Superintendent's Office by 5 p.m. on Aug. 16, 2022, along with a \$2 filing fee. Persons considering running for one of the four open positions may call the Superintendent's Office at 320-239-4800 for more information or to schedule an informational meeting.

2022 – 2023 School Calendar

AUGUST

15 New Employee Inservice
Learning day for staff

22 Inservice Flex Day

23 9-12 Open House 4:00-7:00pm

24 K-8 Open House 4:00-7:00pm

23-25 Teacher Inservice
Learning day for staff

29 First Day of School

T = 7.5
S = 3

AUGUST '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

SEPTEMBER

2 No School

5 No School - Labor Day

T = 20
S = 20

OCTOBER

10 No School-K-12 Conferences
11:30am-7:30pm

13 K-12 Conferences 3:30-7:30pm

20-21 No School - Fall Break

24 No School - Teacher Inservice
Learning day for staff

T = 19.5
S = 17

OCTOBER '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER '22

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

NOVEMBER

3 End Quarter 1

4 No School-Workshop

24-25 No School - Thanksgiving

T = 20
S = 19

DECEMBER

23-30 No School - Winter Break

T = 16
S = 16

DECEMBER '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY

2 No School

3 No School-Teacher Inservice

13 End Quarter 2

16 No School-Teacher Workshop

T = 21
S = 19

FEBRUARY

17 No School

20 No School - Presidents' Day

T = 18
S = 18

FEBRUARY '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

MARCH

2 K-12 Conferences 3:30-7:30pm

7 K-12 Conferences 3:30-7:30pm

16 End Quarter 3

17 No School-Teacher Workshop

20-21 No School-Spring Break

T = 22
S = 20

APRIL

7 No School

10 No School

T = 18
S = 18

APRIL '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MAY

25 Student Last Day

26 Graduation

26 Staff Last Day

29 Memorial Day

T = 20
S = 19

JUNE

Up to 5 E-Learning Days may be used
Emergency closing make-up days to be
added at end of year, if necessary

JUNE '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

	Student Days	Teacher Days
Quarter 1	43	51
Quarter 2	40	42
Quarter 3	41	43
Quarter 4	45	46
	169	182

Join us for an OPEN HOUSE!

Grades K-8

Wednesday, Aug. 24
4-7 p.m.

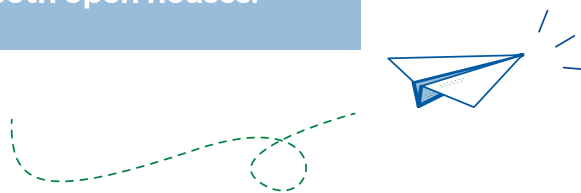
School pictures will be taken.

Grades 9-12

Tuesday, Aug. 23
4-7 p.m.

School pictures will be taken.

Palmer Bus will be available on site during both open houses!



Reminders:



- Be sure to update your online enrollment on the website.
- You can pay any dues, device payments, lunch, yearbook, parking, and more via school pay.
- All students can also view their teachers and schedules online.





Preschool SCHOOL SUPPLIES



3-4 Year Olds

M/T/TH OR T/TH

- Backpack (full size) **labeled with child's name**
- 2 sturdy pocket folders **labeled with child's name**
- 1 - 1" 3 ring binder with plastic cover pocket in front **labeled with child's name**
- 1 package of napkins, 300 count or larger
- 1 plastic pencil box, approximately 5"x8" **labeled with child's name**
- 1 Crayola watercolor paint set
- 1 Crayola crayons, 24 count
- 1 Crayons markers, 10 count broad line
- 1 child scissors (blunt tip)
- 1 Elmer's glue stick
- 1 - 5 oz. Dixie or plastic cups

\$10 Preschool supply fee (Checks made to Sara Nestor)
This money will be used for additional classroom supplies, special days, etc.

Optional

Art supplies: dot stickers, velcro strips or dots, magnetic dots, tacky glue

Science ingredients: flour, cream of tartar, baby oil, white hair conditioner, gallon size ziploc bags

4-5 Year Olds

M/W/F

- Backpack (full size) **labeled with child's name**
- 2 sturdy pocket folders **labeled with child's name**
- 1 - 1" 3 Ring Binder with front cover pocket **labeled with child's name** (*Students from last year will NOT need a binder*)
- 1 - 5 oz. Dixie or plastic cups
- 1 Kleenex
- 1 plastic pencil box, approx. 5"x 8" **labeled with child's name**
- 1 Crayola crayons, 24 count
- 1 Crayola markers, 10 count broad line
- 1 child scissors (blunt tip)
- 2 Elmer's glue sticks
- 1 package of page protectors
- 2 Expo dry erase markers, chisel tip

\$10 Preschool Supply Fee (checks should be made to Sara Nestor)
This money will be used for additional classroom supplies, special days, etc.

Optional

Art supplies: dot stickers, velcro strips or dots, magnetic dots, tacky glue

Science ingredients: flour, cream of tartar, baby oil, white hair conditioner, gallon ziploc bags

MINNEWASKA
little LAKERS

GRADES K-3 SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Kindergarten

1 Large School Bag (no wheels) labeled with name
4 Boxes Basic Crayola Crayons (24 count)
1 Box Wide Crayola classic colors markers
1 Box Skinny Crayola markers (classic colors)
1 Box 12 count Crayola colored pencils
4 Large glue sticks (1 oz. or larger)
1 set of Expo fine-point whiteboard markers (no chisel tip, low odor)
1 Spiral Drawing Pad (for art) 1 250 count box of tissue
\$40.00 for snacks to be purchased by the teacher. Also included portfolio binder. (Please make checks payable to classroom teacher)

Optional

Clorox Wipes
1 box of gallon or quart size Ziploc baggies
1 bottle Elmer's Glue - "Glue-All"

Please have your child wear tennis shoes to school with Velcro or elastic and label all items sent to school with your child's name.

First Grade

24 No. 2 pencils - Ticonderoga pencils
2 boxes 24 count Crayola crayons
1 box 12 count Crayola colored pencils
1 box narrow Crayola markers (classic colors)
2 boxes wide Crayola markers (classic colors)
1 spiral bound notebook
1 folder
1 Spiral Drawing Pad (for art)
1 set of Expo dry erase markers (low odor)
3 small Elmer's glue sticks
1 Fiskars scissors
1 Backpack (labeled with child's name, no rollers)
1 large pink eraser
1 Highlighter
1 Water Bottle (labeled) Headphones (no earbuds)
\$38 cash for misc. Items (portfolio, special activities, snacks, etc.)

Optional

1 canister of Clorox wipes

No pencil boxes needed

Please have your child wear tennis shoes to school.

Second Grade

2 pkg. of No. 2 pencils - Ticonderoga brand recommended
2 Boxes Basic Crayons (24 count only)
2 Boxes Colored Pencils (sharpened)
1 Box Classic Colors Crayola Washable Markers
1 Box Classic Colors Crayola Washable Markers, fine tip
2 Large glue sticks
1 Highlighter (any color)
1 Spiral Bound Notebook, Wide Ruled
1 Spiral Drawing pad (for art)
1 Fiskars Scissors
3 Pocket folders - red, blue, green
1 Pencil Box (8x5x2)
Headphones
1 250 count box of tissue
1 Pencil Sharpener
1 Water Bottle
1 Pkg Dry Erase Markers (low odor)
1 Large Pink Eraser
1 Dry Erase Board Eraser
1 Crayola Watercolor Paint Set - 8 count
Girls - 1 box quart or gallon sized Ziploc Bags
Boys - 1 container of Clorox wipes
\$25 cash for planner, parties, misc.

Third Grade

24 No. 2 pencils - black Ticonderoga pencils
1 box of crayons (24 count)
1 box colored pencils
1 highlighter (any color)
1 box Crayola markers
1 spiral bound sketch book (for art, 9x12 or 9x13 Strathmore or Mondo Llama brand recommended)
2 Composition Notebooks
1 Adult sized scissors
3 Pocket Folders - solid colors (1 with prongs)
1 Large Pink Eraser
1 Small Handheld Pencil Sharpener
2 Large Glue Sticks
1 Dry Erase Board Eraser
6 Dry Erase Markers for white board
Girls - 1 box quart of gallon sized Ziploc Bags
Boys - 1 container of Clorox wipes Headphones (no earbuds)
1 box of Kleenex \$25 cash for misc. Items (planner, parties, snacks)

No Trapper Keepers

Tennis shoes are required for K-3 Physical Education classes.

K-1 students should wear tennis shoes every day.

Please print your child's name on clothing and other items for easy identification. If you have any difficulty purchasing any of these items due to cost, etc., please call the school office at 634-4567.

GRADES 4-6 SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Fourth Grade

Headphones OR Earbuds
48 No. 2 Pencils (Ticonderoga brand recommended, no mechanical pencils)
Pencil Sharpener
1 Box Colored Pencils (12 count)
1 Box Crayons (24 count)
1 Box Bold Classic Colors Markers (10 count)
1 Box of Eraser Tops or Pink Erasers
3 Glue sticks
2 Spiral Notebooks (Wide Ruled)
1 Spiral Drawing Pad for Art class (Target, Walmart, etc.)
2 Folders
2 Red pens
8-10 Dry Expo Markers
1 Pair Scissors
1 Kleenex (250 count)
1 Container Disinfecting Wipes
1 Mouse with cord/ USB connection
1 Calculator Model TI 30XIIS calculator
Tennis shoes for Phy Ed.
\$20.00 Class Dues payable to your classroom teacher (reward parties, special projects, and classroom necessities throughout the year)

Sixth Grade

Headphones OR Earbuds
48 No. 2 Pencils (Ticonderoga brand recommended)
1 Large Pink Eraser
1 Box Colored Pencils (12 count)
1 Box Bold Classic Colors Markers (10 count)
1 Zippered pencil bag
1 Box Crayons (24 count)
2 Black Sharpies
2 Glue Sticks
1 Scissors
2 Highlighters (one yellow & one your choice)
2 Spiral Notebooks (Wide Ruled)
1 Composition Notebook (Wide Ruled)
1 Spiral Drawing Pad for Art class (Target, Walmart, etc.)
5 Pocket Folders
1 Kleenex (250 count)
2 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
1 Calculator Model TI 30XIIS (Optional)
Tennis shoes for Phy Ed.
\$10.00 Class Dues payable to your classroom teacher (reward parties, special projects, and classroom necessities throughout the year)

Fifth Grade

Headphones OR Earbuds
48 No. 2 Pencils (Ticonderoga brand recommended)
1 Box Colored Pencils (12 count)
1 Box Bold Classic Colors Markers (10 count)
1 or 2 Black Fine Tip Sharpie(s)
1 Scissors
1 Spiral Drawing Pad for Art class (Target, Walmart, etc.)
5 Dry Expo Markers
1 Whiteboard Eraser
2 Glue Sticks
1 Highlighter - any color (optional)
3 One-subject notebooks (1 red, 1 blue, 1 green)
1 Composition Notebook (Wide Ruled)
3 Folders (1 red, 1 blue, 1 green)
1 Kleenex (250 count)
1 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
Tennis shoes for Phy Ed.
\$10.00 Class Dues payable to your classroom teacher (reward parties, special projects, and classroom necessities throughout the year)

Purchase the following items at
www.SchoolPay.com

MAIS Date Planner - \$3 each -
Required for all 4th, 5th and 6th
grade students

MAIS Math Template - \$7 each -
Required for all 4th and 6th grade
students



GRADES 7-12 SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Seventh Grade

Headphones OR Earbuds
24 No. 2 Pencils or mechanical pencils
1 Box Colored Pencils (12 count) (Science, English, & Social)
3 3-Ring Binders with pockets
1 Pkg Loose Leaf Notebook paper
2 Spiral Notebooks
4 Folders
1 Pocket Folder w/ 3 Hold Punch fasteners for Science
1 Pkg Highlighters
1 Set 5-tab notebook dividers
Metric Ruler (Science 7)
2 Kleenex (250 count)
1 Calculator Model TI 30XIIS calculator
\$10 School dues plus Planner - visit
School Pay @ www.SchoolPay.com

Seventh & Eighth Grade Physical Education Supplies

Combination padlock or \$5 deposit
(to rent one @ www.SchoolPay.com)
Shorts Deodorant
T-shirt Soap/Shampoo
Socks Comb or Brush
Tennis shoes Swimsuit
Towel

Eighth Grade

Headphones OR Earbuds
24 No. 2 Pencils or mechanical pencils
1 Box Colored Pencils (12 count) (English)
3 3-Ring Binders with pockets
1 Pkg Loose Leaf Notebook paper
2 Spiral Notebooks (one for English 8 Journaling)
4 Folders
1 Pocket Folder w/ 3 Hold Punch fasteners for Science
1 2 pocket folder (Spanish)
1 Pkg Highlighters
2 Low-Odor Dry Erase Markers, Chisel Tip, Black, 4-Count for Spanish rotation
1 Set 5-tab notebook dividers
Ruler
2 Kleenex (250 count)
1 Calculator Model TI 30XIIS calculator
\$10 School dues plus Planner - visit
School Pay @ www.SchoolPay.com

GO LAKERS!

High School

12- #2 Pencils or mechanical pencils
Earbuds/headphones
1 pkg Highlighters
1 pkg blue or black pens
College Ruled notebook & Folder or Binder with paper for the following classes, please refer to your schedule:
Math
Science
English
Social
Health
Spanish
Kleenex 250 count
School dues plus Planner - visit
School Pay @ www.SchoolPay.com

Spanish Class:

2 pkg- Low-Odor Dry Erase Markers,
Chisel Tip, Black, 4-Count

Physical Education:

Combination padlock or \$5 deposit
(to rent one @ www.SchoolPay.com)
Shorts/sweatpants per weather
T-shirt/sweatshirt/jacket per weather
Socks
Tennis shoes
Towel
Deodorant
Soap/Shampoo
Comb or Brush
Swimsuit
May need jacket/gloves for cold weather related activities



Elementary

Scott Lempka, Principal

I hope your family is enjoying some much-needed rest and soaking in some rays on the lake! The 2021-2022 school year is barely in our rear view mirror, and we are already well underway in preparation for the year ahead.

I would like to welcome some new faces to the MAES teaching staff in 2022-2023! In second grade, welcome to Jacey Schlosser and Leigha Janssen. Jacey comes to us from Concordia College, where she shined brightly as a major in elementary education. Leigha joins us from the Brandon-Evansville school district. She has been teaching in our Laker Legends program for the past two years. We would also like to welcome Kayla Sorenson to the Laker team. Kayla will teach elementary physical education and comes to us with experience teaching PE and health in New London Spicer.

We invite all MAES families to Open House Night on Aug. 24 from 4 - 7 p.m. This is an important time for your child to meet their teacher, see their room, and reconnect with friendly faces before the start of school on Aug. 29. Class lists are being finalized, and teacher assignments will be shared with families before the open house.

Principal's Reading Challenge

Parents often ask what they can do to avoid the "summer slide" and keep their kids learning during break. The most important thing you can do is keep your child reading daily. Nothing is proven to boost students' vocabulary and knowledge more than reading at home. Before leaving for the summer, all MAES students were challenged to read 1,000 minutes during the summer. Students who complete the challenge and get their reading log signed by a parent or caregiver will have a pizza and ice cream party with me when they return to school in the fall. This is for our third graders heading to fourth grade, as well!



The elementary school office will reopen in August. If you have any questions or needs, don't hesitate to stop by or call us at 320-634-4567. We are happy to serve you!

On behalf of the entire MAES staff, we wish you a fun and adventure-filled summer! We are already hard at work preparing for the year ahead and looking forward to seeing our students and families again this fall!





Middle School

Sarah Suchy, Principal

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We hope you've had an incredible summer and are ready to join us in what we know as a traditional school year. Minnewaska Middle School is ripe with opportunities for kids to learn, discover information about themselves, and build strong, healthy relationships. As we welcome the new school year, it is with excitement and anticipation of traditional learning years we used to know. We are hopeful the COVID learning experiences are largely behind us, and we're planning for that rhetoric to be minimal.

Our staff at Minnewaska Middle is top notch and full of energy! They really work hard to know every student and make a difference every single day. This year, we have a few new faces joining the Middle School, and all are already well-known as Lakers through our community. Amber Gremmels joins us in the Science department to primarily teach 8th grade. Abby Ver Steeg joins our 5th grade team. Brian Gruber has been around Minnewaska for quite a few years, and we're excited to welcome him back to Laker Country as an interventionist for students in grades 4-8. Although Andy Goracke is not new to Minnewaska, he is new to the 4-6 PE position for which he will be an incredible asset. As a school that serves students in grades 4-8, we know we're far from the traditional middle school you may have experienced or heard about. We recognize students in grades 4-8 are learning and growing exponentially, both physically and cognitively. For this reason, we have intentionally built a middle school experience to bridge traditional elementary learning experiences and prepare students for the high school environment. We recognize maturity and growth are evolving through the five grades we teach, so we provide freedoms and opportunities based on what students are ready for each step of the way. We are strongly committed to ensuring students participate in a middle school focused on providing quality core instruction, building relationships, developing social and emotional experiences, and engaging students in various exploratory classes to further enhance their educational foundation.

One of our major focuses at Minnewaska Middle School is creating an atmosphere where students can thrive. Middle school magic can't happen without students believing in themselves, learning

in a safe environment, and being willing to take risks. Our goal is that every student is ready to jump in and grow at their own pace and knows the power of having a growth mindset.



We hope you have a great ending to the summer season and are looking forward to being part of our Laker Family as much as we are! We can't wait to get to be together again!





Nate Meissner, Principal

High School

I hope you are having a fantastic summer break! The building is full of summer school students, students participating in strength and speed and other summer athletics, and staff preparing the building for a great fall startup. Before you know it, fall activities will be upon us, and we will be back at it!

I want to extend a warm welcome to families who are new to our school district. Thank you for your partnership and trust in our school district! I also want to welcome and introduce our new teachers at the high school:

Jared Lyle, Special Education
Nick Gugisberg, Industrial Technology
David Drexler, Social Studies
Zach Traphagen, Physical Education

At MAHS, our dedicated staff encourage students to take risks in their academics and strive to reach their full potential. We are proud to offer a wide variety of classes in our core academic areas and elective programs, as well as offer 19 college semester courses and eight Advanced Placement courses. We also offer a certified nursing assistant (CNA) course through a partnership with Alexandria Technical College.

Beginning in fall 2022, we are adding an Alternative Learning Program to our high school. This program's mission is to provide a viable educational option for students experiencing difficulty in the traditional education system. The program encourages all MAHS students to achieve academic success and complete their education. Students who enroll in MAHS Alternative Learning Program must qualify under one or more of the Minnesota Graduation Incentives Program criteria and are defined as at-risk of not completing high school.

As our leadership team meets this summer to gear up for the start of the school year, we will focus on creating a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students and staff. Our team will work with our Student Council and Student Leadership Team to promote a positive school culture where all students feel comfortable at MAHS!

A few reminders as we approach the school year:

The Back-to-School Open House is Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022, from 4-7 p.m. **School pictures will be taken during open house.**



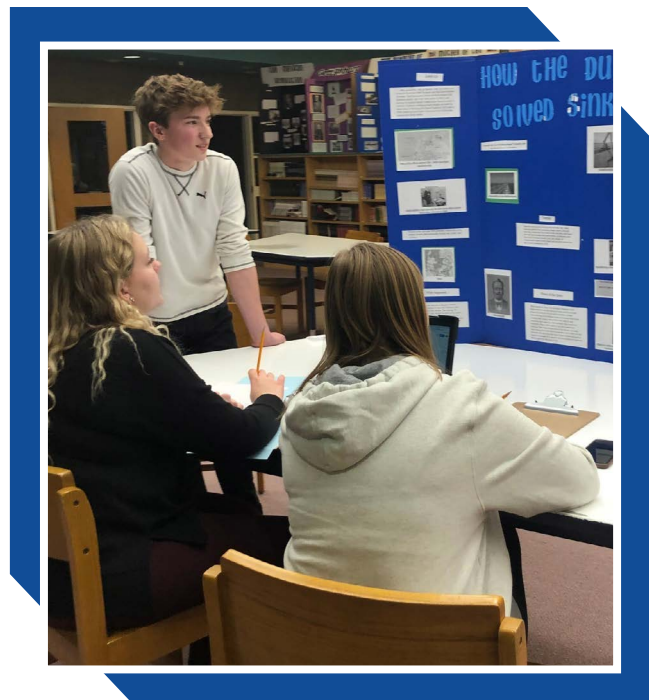
Aug. 23 Open House Details

4-7 p.m.	9-12 Open House
4:30-5 p.m.	New family orientation (Auditorium)
5-5:30 p.m.	9th grade student/parent meeting (Auditorium)
5:45-6:15 p.m.	Senior Meeting (Auditorium)
6:15-7 p.m.	Required ATCC college courses (Auditorium)

Contact Jen Ring at jring@isd2149.org for scheduling questions, or call the high school office for general inquiries at 320-239-4820.

Have a great rest of your summer vacation!

GO LAKERS!





W.I.N. Academy

Susan Knutson, W.I.N. Principal/Special Education Coordinator

We hope this greeting finds you well and enjoying your summer. I am so excited to join the LAKER Family as Principal/Special Education Coordinator at W.I.N. Academy. I come to this position with 27 years experience in special education, school counseling and administration working in the Eden Valley-Watkins District, and most recently, at West Central Area. My husband and I have lived in Starbuck for the past three years and before that we were in New London. We have three grown sons and two wonderful daughter-in-laws. We are overjoyed to be expecting our first grandchild in January. We enjoy our time in the outdoors, where you can find us hunting, ice fishing, riding horses, or hanging out on the lake. Please take time for some physical and mental self-care before school starts. I look forward to meeting you very soon.

W.I.N. (What I Need) Academy is a learning environment focused on meeting students where they are at. We work hard to provide academic, relevant, and personalized learning with the best practices for mental health services. We are a

Federal Setting 4 Special Education School and are Children’s Therapeutic Support Services (CTSS) certified through the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Students receive academic instruction in their core subject areas and two to three hours per day of mental health services. We serve the Minnewaska District, as well as students from surrounding districts.

W.I.N. is a Minnesota State Certified Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) School. PBIS creates a climate where students and staff feel welcomed and safe. Staff is trained on how to provide proactive, positive interventions to our students.

We have fun and love to celebrate success. Every student’s plan is different, and our goal is to provide students with the skills they need to be successful in their home school as quickly as possible. We have committed, skillful, and compassionate staff who care deeply about our students and their education.

ECFE

Sara Nestor, Coordinator

“ You are your child’s first, best, and most important teacher! ”

includes one-time events, month-long classes, and 7-week sessions. Fall classes include a cooking class, family night with the Glenwood Fire Department, Grandparents’ classes, and more! Classes begin the week of Sept. 19.

Visit the [Minnewaska Schools website at minnewaska.k12.mn.us](http://minnewaska.k12.mn.us) and click on the **Community Ed** tab to register.

We understand parents are the most important teachers, and we partner with our parents and families to offer the very best in Early Childhood and Family Education (ECFE). Our Early Childhood staff is looking forward to a fun fall session filled with many class offerings for all age groups. Registration for Fall ECFE classes begins in mid-August. Visit the Community Ed page for class offerings and to register.

Fall Classes

This fall, we will be offering many of the familiar ECFE classes for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children that we have had in the past. This





Welcome!

On behalf of our Early Childhood staff, we are excited about the start of a new school year and look forward to helping prepare your child for Kindergarten! Our staff is busy preparing for another year of hands-on learning and exploration to support each preschooler's social and emotional development and pre-academic skills. Preschool begins on Sept. 6-7.

Before- and after-school care is an option for 4-5-year-old preschoolers again this year. Before-school care is available for children in the half-day morning or all-day preschool class. After-school care is available for children in the half-day afternoon or all-day preschool class. Registration for before- and after-school care enrollment opens in August. Registration can be completed online through Community Ed. Contact Audrey Frey at afrey@isd2149.org for questions about before or after-school care.

Preschool class options are: For 3-4-year-old preschoolers, families can opt for 2 or 3 mornings per week. For 4-5-year-old preschoolers, families can choose three half-days, morning or afternoon, as well as a three full-day per week preschool class. We are excited to have a Reading Corps. Tutors and trained staff members provide students with additional literacy and math support and enrichment this year.

Meet & Greet visits and Parent Meeting

Meet & Greets is an individualized time to meet your child's teacher, explore the preschool classroom, turn in supplies and paperwork, and help make their first day of preschool a smooth transition. Teachers will be contacting families to schedule meet & greet times.

On Sept. 1, there will be a parent meeting for all preschool families at the Elementary School.

Preschool information, policies, and other resources will be shared at this meeting. This is a great opportunity for families to ask questions.



Early Childhood Screening

If your child will be starting school this fall, it's time for their Early Childhood Screening! This free screening is a requirement for children entering school in the state of Minnesota.

At your child's Early Childhood Screening, a professional will check the following:

- Vision & hearing
- Growth, immunizations, and movement
- Thinking, language, and communication skills
- Social and emotional development

For more information and to register, visit the school website:

www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us/community-ed





Before-school & After-school Fun

Audrey Frey, SACC Director

Before- and After-school care for students will be available! We are continuing a Before School Enrichment Program (BSEP) along with our highly successful After School Enrichment Program (ASEP) for students attending all-day Preschool through 6th grade. These programs will be offered during the 2022-2023 school year at Minnewaska Area Elementary School. The cost is \$5.50 per day for the morning program and \$8 per day for the afternoon program. Morning care at Minnewaska Area Elementary school will run from 6:30 a.m.- 8 a.m. while afternoon care will run from 2:45 p.m.-6 p.m. This includes a snack and activities. Some of the activities will include crafts, scientific experiments, speakers and demonstrations, library, and music. We will take some local field trips, and there is plenty of good free time for kids to enjoy games, puzzles, and free play. **Registration is completed online and will open on Aug. 1.**

Attendance can be full-time, part-time, or drop-in; however, students must be registered a minimum of 24 hours in advance.

Laker Legends Child Care for Non-school Days

School-age Child Care is available for non-school days if staff and enrollment numbers allow. The cost for a full day is \$30/ day. This includes snacks and activities. Students are need to bring their

own lunch. A sign-up will be held three weeks prior to determine if child care will be available for that day. A two-week notice will be given either way.

Non-school day child care may be canceled because of a shortage of staff or low enrollment numbers.

Non-school Dates Available:

- Oct. 20, 21 & 24
- Nov. 4 & 7
- Dec. 23- Jan 3.
- Feb 21
- March 17, 20 & 21
- April 7 & 10

For more information on the Before School Enrichment Program, After School Enrichment Program, or Laker Legends, please email Audrey Frey, School Age Child Care Director, at afrey@isd2149.org, or Carrie Janu, CE/Activities Administrative Assistant at cjanu@isd2149.org. Registration can be found under the Community Ed tab on the Minnewaska Area Schools website.





Student Support Services

Mary Walsh, School Social Worker

Student Services providers are here to support you and your child and to assist in ensuring the best experience possible at Minnewaska. Our diverse staff is skilled in areas to promote the emotional, academic, physical, and developmental well-being of the student body. We work in both the prevention and intervention arenas, collaborating with families, school staff, and community stakeholders to meet students' individual needs.

Support Groups & Individual Counseling

As the new school year begins, we understand many students come to us needing a little extra support or a great deal of support. The student services staff will be offering support groups and individual sessions for students at all grade levels, K-12. If we are unable to meet your child's specific needs, we will assist in making referrals to other providers to better serve your child. Please contact any of us if you are looking for support for your child in any way. Sometimes kids just need someone to talk to!

Backpack Attack

Once again Minnewaska Area Schools is partnering with United Way of Pope and Douglas Counties to provide nutritious meals for students who may need a little extra on the weekends. Backpack Attack bags are distributed on Fridays and holiday breaks to students in grades K-6 who sign up for the program. You will see a letter this fall to sign and return if you are interested. If older students (grades 7-12) are in need of meals, please contact Mary Walsh directly, and we will get your child signed up. We are so grateful to our community donors who continue to make this program possible! Thank you so much!

The Lighthouse Food Shelf

We are extremely proud to continue to provide students with food from our own food shelf at the Middle School and High School building. The Lighthouse will open again this fall because of the support of Horizon Public Health and other generous community organizations and individuals. Watch for more details regarding The Lighthouse and how students may access it. Contact Mary Walsh for more information or with any questions.



Mary Walsh
School Social Worker
MAHS 239-1317

Hannah Meagher
4-8 Counselor
MAMS 239-4800

Jen Ring
9-12 Counselor
MAHS 239-4800

Jon Weaver
K-3 Counselor
MAES 634-4567

Early Childhood Special Education and Early Intervention Services



Stephanie Swalla / Mindy DeGeer

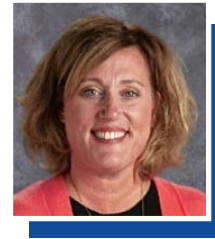
What Do We Do?

Our services help young children (birth through kindergarten) who demonstrate or are at risk for a developmental delay in the following areas: cognitive, speech and language, large and fine motor skills, adaptive/functional skills, vision or hearing loss, and social/emotional skills. Early Intervention Services are delivered to a child primarily in their home or childcare center. From age 3-5, children receive these services at Minnewaska Little Lakers Preschool or at a community preschool.

IDEA & Help Me Grow

ECSE can be confused with Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE). While ECFE is separate, ECSE is a district program run through the Minnesota Department of Education and is governed by a special education law called IDEA. The Individuals

with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ensures that intervention services are provided to young children with developmental delays. Minnesota's Help Me Grow initiative provides information and resources to help parents, professionals, and community members identify children who may be experiencing developmental delays and how to better monitor their developmental progression. When concerns arise, parents or caregivers are encouraged to make a referral online at helpmegrowmn.org or by calling 1-866-693-GROW (4769).



Head Start

Jodi Femrite, Family Education Specialist

Our Purpose

Our mission in Head Start, a child, and family development program, is to provide each child with an opportunity to grow in a safe and nurturing environment. A caring and professional staff not only administers the social and emotional needs of the children, but it also encourages and supports the skills needed for the families to thrive. Both Head Start and Early Head Start are taking applications at wcmca.org for the 2022-2023 school year.

Early Head Start

This free home-based program serves pregnant mothers and children from birth to age three. We promote comprehensive early childhood development and support family development.

Goals of Program

1. To promote healthy prenatal outcome for pregnant women.
2. To enhance the development of young children.
3. To promote healthy family functioning.

Head Start

This program serves children ages 3-5, four half days a week in a classroom setting. Head Start utilizes the Teaching Strategies Gold curriculum and assessment to prepare children for kindergarten. Head Start is a 4-Star Parent Aware Rated Program (the highest possible score). We are currently located in Starbuck and are free for families who qualify. Lunch is provided.



Community Education

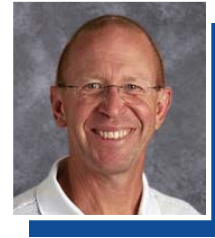
Bill Mills, Director of Community Education

As we look ahead to the upcoming school year, we encourage all of our area citizens and students to get involved with any number of programs offered through the Minnewaska Area Schools Community Education.

Minnewaska Area Schools Community Education is offering a number of interesting activities and courses for all ages. There's something for everyone as we anticipate the approach of fall. From our highly popular water aerobics classes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at the MAHS pool to our youth activity programs beginning in early September that include football and volleyball. These have all been very popular programs throughout the past several years.

All other information concerning MAS Community Education can be found online by going to the school website at www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us under the Community Ed tab or by calling Administrative Assistant Carrie Janu in the MAS Community Education/Activities office at 320-239-1305.

For those of you who are not aware, I retired from my position as Activities Director for Minnewaska Area High School on June 30. I'll definitely miss it, but I'm also looking forward to a less busy schedule in my life as I move ahead. I will continue working as the schools Community Education Director, and I'm excited to have some more time to dedicate to enhancing and improving our programming for our area's youth and adults. The new MAHS Activities Director is Phil Johnsrud. He will do a great job in moving forward. I'm excited for Phil as he takes over the reigns of the position and leads Laker Activities into the future!



As the 2022-2023 school year approaches, the Minnewaska Area Schools Office of Community Education is excited to welcome you back and encourages everyone to participate in the wide variety of programming offered to those of all ages!





Activities

Phil Johnsrud, Activities Director

We are excited about the upcoming school year and all the opportunities for participation that our Laker students have at Minnewaska Area Schools. A new school year brings change and 2022-2023 will be no different! New seasons and new levels of competition bring optimism and excitement to individuals as well as teams. Being part of a team is the ultimate opportunity to grow as an individual, compete, and learn life lessons. We encourage all students to get involved with our programs offered at Minnewaska Area Schools.

Most importantly, after many years Bill Mills has retired as our Laker Activities Director. He will continue as our Director of Community Education on a part-time basis. Bill has been such a great leader and mentor for our Laker students and coaches and will be missed. We wish him the best as moves into retirement. I have a feeling we will still see him on campus quite often! Thank you Bill for all you have done for District 2149.

In the area of Minnewaska Area Activities, students in grades 7-12 may choose to participate in cross country, football, boys' soccer, girls' swimming, girls' tennis, and volleyball. Moving forward, interested participants must have all Minnewaska Activities and Minnesota State High school League online forms and fees completed and paid before the

first practice. Varsity, JV, and 9th grade practices begin on Monday, Aug. 15, while most junior high practices begin on Monday, Aug. 29.



The meeting will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 3 at Minnewaska Area High School and will address several important topics. Beginning at 6 p.m. on Aug. 3, there will be a meeting in the auditorium for all parents/guardians, participants, and coaches. Phil Johnsrud, Minnewaska Area Activities Director, will speak briefly about important topics for athletes and parents, followed by breakout sessions for each sport program led by the head coach and their assistants beginning at 6:30 p.m.

In addition to the meetings, families that don't have internet access or need help with online registration, we will offer an activity registration session in the computer lab from 4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. This session will be led by our activities office staff in our MAHS computer lab in room (G-120). Those interested in online registration assistance can simply attend the session any time between 4 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. for one-on-one help on Wednesday, Aug. 3.





Activities, continued

Phil Johnsrud, Activities Director

Finally, impact testing (concussion) and physicals (for those paying cash only) will take place on Thursday, Aug. 4 at Minnewaska Area High School. All athletes in grades 9-12 participating in football, soccer, volleyball, diving, and tennis must have updated baseline impact tests completed before the season begins. Impact testing will take place in the Minnewaska Area High School computer lab (G-120). Below you find the impact testing schedule for **Thursday, Aug. 4.**

In regard to physicals, those that will be paying **CASH ONLY** (\$75 cash or check), can make an appointment through Glacial Ridge Health System by calling (320-634-5157). Appointments are available between 12 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 4. Cash-only physicals will take place at Minnewaska Area High School. For families utilizing their health insurance for physicals, these must take place at a medical facility of your choice, so please make your appointments at your convenience so they are completed before Aug. 15, 2022. Once again, physicals are required by the MSHSL, which means all student athletes going into 7th and 10th grade must have an updated physical on file. This also includes participants who are not going into 7th or 10th grade who have not had a physical in the last three years.

Online registration and payment for the upcoming fall season beginning on Monday, Aug. 15 is now available on the Minnewaska Area Schools website (minnewaska.k12.mn.us). For those without internet access you will be able to stop in the CE/Activities Office at Minnewaska Area High School to access a computer to register your child or utilize the registration help session on Wednesday, Aug. 3 from 4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

All other information concerning MAHS fall activities and schedules can be found online by going to the school website under the Community Ed or Activities tab or by calling the MAS Community Education/Activities office at 320-239-1305.

Impact Testing Schedule Thursday, Aug. 4

12 - 12:45 p.m.	9th Football Players
12:50 - 1:35 p.m.	10th Football Players
1:40 - 2:25 p.m.	11th Football Players
2:30 - 3:15 p.m.	12th Football Players
3:20 - 4:05 p.m.	Soccer (9 - 10) Players
4:10 - 4:55 p.m.	Soccer (11 - 12) Players
5 - 5:45 p.m.	Volleyball (9 - 10) Players
5:50 - 6:35 p.m.	Volleyball (11 - 12) Players
6:40 - 7:25 p.m.	Diving & Tennis (Varsity)





2022 Fall Sports and Practice Information

Football

GRADES 9 - 12

Monday, Aug. 15 at 8 a.m. to noon at MAHS

GRADES 7 - 8

Monday, Aug. 29 (First day of school) after school until 5:30 p.m. at MAHS.

(Note: All 7th & 8th graders participating in a fall activity will meet with Activities Director Phil Johnsrud during the lunch hour in the MAHS Auditorium on the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29.)

Boys and Girls Cross Country

GRADES 7 - 12

Monday, Aug. 15 at 7 a.m. - Meet on the stadium football field.

(Note: All 7th & 8th graders participating in a fall activity will meet with Activities Director Phil Johnsrud during the lunch hour in the MAHS Auditorium on the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29.)

Girls Tennis

GRADES 9 - 12

Monday, Aug. 15 at 4 to 6 p.m.
Please meet at the Tennis Courts.

GRADES 7 - 8

Monday, Aug. 15 at 4 to 6 p.m.
Please meet at the Tennis Courts.

(Note: All 7th & 8th graders participating in a fall activity will meet with Activities Director Phil Johnsrud during the lunch hour in the MAHS Auditorium on the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29.)

Girls Swim and Dive

GRADES 9 - 12

Monday, Aug. 15 at 3:15 p.m.

For the first day of practice, please bring tennis shoes, shirt, and shorts for dry land practice.

Tuesday, Aug. 16 and on - Grades 9 - 12 will practice at 8 to 11 a.m. at Minnewaska Area High School

GRADES 7 - 8

Monday, Aug. 16 at 3:15 p.m.

For the first day of practice, please bring tennis shoes, shirt, and shorts for dry land practice.

(Note: All 7th & 8th graders participating in a fall activity will meet with Activities Director Phil Johnsrud during the lunch hour in the MAHS Auditorium on the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29.)

Volleyball

GRADES 9 - 12

Monday, Aug. 15 at 8 to 10 a.m. and 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Main & Auxiliary Gyms.

Second week there will only be a morning practice. Time (TBD)

GRADES 7 - 8

Monday, Aug. 29 (1st Day of School)

- 7th Grade practice will be held at MAES from 3:30 to 5:15 p.m. You will take a bus from HS to MAES and will need to be picked up from MAES once practice is over. (Bus #9, #12, and #16)
- 8th Grade practice will be held at WIN Academy (Starbuck) from 3:30 to 5:15 p.m. You will take a bus from the HS to Starbuck and will need to be picked up in Starbuck once practice is over. (Bus Number #4 and Bus Number #6)
- All 8th Grade players are invited to attend captains practices the week of Aug. 8 as well as the 9 - 12 practices Aug. 15 - 18. Specific details of 8th grade participation will be available in July.
- *(Note: All 7th & 8th graders participating in a fall activity will meet with Activities Director Phil Johnsrud during the lunch hour in the MAHS Auditorium on the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29.)*

Boys Soccer

GRADES 9 - 12

Monday, Aug. 15 at 7 to 8:30 a.m. at the MAHS Veterans field.

There will also be evening practice the first week Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 to 7:45 p.m.

Tony Feigum will start running an open soccer option at the museum field, starting Sunday, July 24 at 6 p.m. This will run on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.

GRADES 7 - 8

Monday, Aug. 29 (first day of school) after school for grades 7 - 8 at 3:30 to 5 p.m. near the MAHS softball complex behind the school.

(Note: All 7th & 8th graders participating in a fall activity will meet with Activities Director Phil Johnsrud during the noon hour in the MAHS Auditorium on the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29.)

Wednesday, Aug. 3 | 6 p.m.

Fall Sports Meeting for all parents/guardians, participants, and coaches in grades 7-12.



Building and Grounds



Ethen Schoen, Building and Grounds Director

Our custodial and maintenance staff have been hard at work, deep cleaning and preparing the schools for another great year! We look forward to serving the students, teachers, coaches, and community members who utilize our facilities.

Our WIN campus has added new carpeting in multiple classrooms and the main office, adding a nice look to the learning environment. Painting in the mental health wing has brightened that space.

The elementary has seen a major flooring upgrade in the ECFE wing as eight classrooms have added fresh carpet. The main entrance and ECFE entrance had more inviting carpeting installed. Multiple rooms have been painted, as well as the hallway into the gym to liven up the space.

The High School has seen multiple changes through the summer months. The shot put and discus areas have been relocated nearer to the long jump/triple jump pits. Entrance doors have been repaired or replaced, as needed, to ensure proper functionality and safety. Handicap-accessible doors have been added at entrances 1, 4, and 13. Three more bottle-filling stations have been added to the educational wing. Old fountains have been removed from the cafeteria and gyms. Extensive painting has been done in the gyms, pool area, locker rooms, and cafeteria to improve the aesthetic of those areas.

Let's have a great year, Lakers!



Health Services

Megan Boutain, Licensed School Nurse, RN, BSN, PHN, LSN

What We Do

The Health Services department collaborates with the educational team to help create an environment that supports student health and limits barriers to learning. We work towards protecting and promoting student health, facilitating optimal development, and advancing academic success. We are grounded in ethical- and evidence-based practice and are the bridge between healthcare and education.

Services Provided

- Basic illness and injury care
- Medication administration
- Health education for students
- Hearing and vision screening
- Immunization data collection and monitoring

When to Keep Your Student Home From School

It can be tough to decide when to keep your child home from school when they are not feeling well. Here are a few guidelines to help (please view our school website for a complete list). Please inform the school when you plan to keep your child home.

- If they have a fever of 100 degrees F, stay home until they have been fever-free for

24 hours without using fever-reducing medication.

- If they have vomited or had diarrhea, stay home until 24 hours after the last episode.
- If they have any unidentified rash, check with your primary care provider before sending them to school.



Immunization Spotlight

Check out the Minnesota Department of Health's **Immunization Form** to help parents document their child's immunization history.

7th Grade and 12th Grade Students

Don't forget when your child turns 16, they should get their meningococcal booster vaccine. Most students receive their initial meningococcal vaccine when they enter 7th grade and their second dose when they enter 12th grade. Teenagers and young adults are at high risk for meningococcal disease. This dose is important to ensure they are fully protected through their highest-risk years.



We strive daily to utilize Palmer Bus Core Values:
SAFETY · INTEGRITY · DIGNITY · HELP · COMMUNITY

Palmer Bus Service takes pride in serving our community by safely transporting students. We look forward to a fun-filled 2022-2023 school year creating positive connections with students, schools, and families. Please reach out to us at (320) 634-3272 with any questions or concerns that arise as we want all students to have a joyful transportation experience. United with an amazing Minnewaska District, we will address any issues that may occur.

Parents, you will see and hear information this year about “Stay In Your Seat” and “Hands To Yourself” This will be a theme on our buses this year. Other rules are below.

School Bus Safety / know the rules to ride the bus

1. It is a privilege to ride a school bus, not a right to ride.
2. A student must be on their best behavior on the bus. Keep voices low, and keep hands and heads inside the bus at all times, and remain seated and facing forward. Do not throw things or play rough with friends. Doing so can distract the driver from driving.
3. Get to the bus stop 5 to 10 minutes prior to the assigned pickup time.
4. Remain on the sidewalk or grass at the bus stop until the bus stops and opens its door for you to get in.
5. When boarding the bus, go directly to a seat and sit down.
6. You must remain seated in the seat while the bus is in motion.
7. There will be no food of any kind on a school bus like; pop, candy, gum, chips or cookies.
8. Please help the bus driver keep the bus clean by picking up the trash and placing it in the garbage.
9. When getting off the bus, wait for the bus driver to give you a signal to cross in front of the bus.
10. Be careful when getting off the bus (always use the handrails), and only get off at your designated stop.
11. If you've forgotten something on the bus, do not run back and attempt to get it. The driver might not see you and start moving the bus to go to the next stop. Go home, call Palmer Bus Service Minnewaska, and see if you can pick it up at another time.
12. Please do not get into a strange car that is waiting at a bus stop that you do not know, even if they offer to take you home.
13. No bad language, no bullying and no fighting with other students or the driver.

Contact Information

Lars Ossmo, Site Manager
larso@palmerbusservice.com
17631 210th Ave. Glenwood, MN 56334
Phone: (320) 634-3272





Human Resources



Olivia Kahrs, Payroll/Benefits Manager

My name is Olivia Kahrs, and I am the “new” face in the District Office. My role is to assist new applicants with questions, guide staff through paperwork and handbooks, and be a resource for current staff on benefits and payroll. I started the mid-school year and am excited to experience the excitement of the first day of school!

Quality Educational Staff

Did you know the Minnewaska School District has 102 full-time teachers averaging 11 years with our program? Our educators are empowered with new teacher mentorship opportunities, staff development training sessions, and continuing education programs to consistently deliver quality education to our community.

Extraordinary Support Employees

How many of your students know a custodian, paraprofessional, food service worker, or secretary

by name? They all know the helpers they meet in their day. Whether finding their favorite hat in the lost and found or needing a safe space to test their boundaries, Minnewaska Area Schools strives to hire not just a warm body- but a service leader.

Are you Laker material?

Three separate properties, before and after school care, allergy needs, multiple sports, dizzying logistics; HOW DO WE DO IT? Amazing staff. Check our website at www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us/ and follow the Employment link at the top for all our up-to-date openings.

Questions/Comments?

Please reach out to me for any questions or comments! OKahrs@isd2149.org

Make the 22-23 school year AMAZING!

New Staff Spotlight

Jeremy Armstrong, Asst. Building and Grounds Supervisor

Meghan Bird, Media Center

Angie Blair, District Office/Food Services Admin Assistant

Ryan Christianson, Science Teacher

Tessa Colbjornsen, Special Education Teacher,

Sue Currens, SPED/Mental Health Coordinator

David Drexler, Social Studies Teacher

Bridget Gallagher, Director of Food and Nutrition Services

Amber Gremmels, Science Teacher

Brian Gruber, Elementary Interventionist Teacher

Nick Gugisberg, Industrial Tech Teacher

JJ Hornung, Special Education Teacher

Leigha Janssen, Elementary Education

Mary Kriese, Technology Specialist

Sue Knutson, WIN Academy Principal/SPED Coordinator

Jared Lyle, Special Education Teacher

Drew Olsonawski, Director of Business Services

Jacey Schlosser, Elementary Ed Teacher

Ethan Schoen, Director of Building and Grounds

Kayla Sorenson, Physical Education Teacher

Jodie Tharp, School Psychologist

Zachary Traphagen, Physical Education Teacher

Abby Ver Steeg, Elementary Education Teacher





Technology

Mark Meyer, IT Systems Manager

Once again, summer has flown by. All student devices that have been turned in for the summer are being cleaned, repaired and prepped for the upcoming school year. If you or your student has a device that was kept during the summer for summer school or your student is a 10 - 12 grader who kept it for the summer, and the device needs to be repaired, please contact massupport@isd2149.org or call 320-239-1322 to make arrangements to drop it off. We will need to have these devices back ASAP to see if they can be repaired and returned in time for the start of school.

Once again, new Chromebooks with cases have been purchased for grades 5 and 9, and we were able to replace some older iPads at the elementary school.

Device insurance is available for purchase for students 7 - 12 who take their chromebooks home each day during the school year. The cost is \$45.00 per year per student. Insurance does not cover loss of the device, damage to the power adapter, or if any damage occurs when the protective case we provide has been removed. The protective case must remain on the device at all times. The

insurance information is listed below and can be purchased through SchoolPay at www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us. Insurance must be purchased by the end of the first week of school or within a week of enrollment for new students.

Annual Premium Due at Registration	Deductible Claim #1	Deductible Claim #2	Deductible Claim #3
\$45 per device	\$0	\$45	\$90

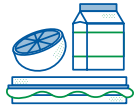
Families have the option to not purchase insurance but would then be responsible for the cost of any damage that occurs to the district-provided device.

Students in grades 7 - 12 will be asked to sign the Device Use Policy in homerooms during the first week in school. A copy of the policy can be found on our website under the technology department.

Any questions or concerns with devices should be directed to massupport@isd2149.org.

Please see our website (minnewaska.k12.mn.us) for a list of the software our district uses with your students.





Changes to the new school year!

Our waivers granted by the USDA have expired and will not be renewed for the 2022-23 school year. What does this mean exactly? We will continue to have FREE Breakfast for all students; however, lunch will no longer be free. It is important for every family to fill out the Application for Meal Benefits to qualifying for reduced or free lunches. Monies will need to be deposited into the student's lunch accounts. We have links on our school website. Our schools provide a variety of healthy meal options every day.

New Bulk Milk Machines!

We secured a grant to install bulk milk machines in the Elementary and High Schools for the 2022-23 school year. There are clear benefits to switching to the bulk milk option. 1) We will no longer have the extra garbage waste from the milk cartons. 2) There is less waste of milk when students can take the amount. 3) Students consume more milk because it tastes better.

Ala Carte Returns!

Students can purchase an additional entrée or other menu items. Ala Carte foods are meant to be a supplement to a student's meal based on individual needs, and these foods are not covered under a student's meal benefits. You can put limits on student spending by calling the Food and Nutrition Department.

Don't Miss Out on Additional Benefits

Your student(s) as well as your school district benefits when you apply for and are approved for educational benefits:

- Discounts on school sports/activities
- Possible discounts on internet services and devices
- Possible extended Pandemic EBT benefits
- Carryover of free/reduced meal benefits for 30 school days 2022-23 School Year

There is much at stake if you do not fill out this application. Completing the Application for Educational Benefits, for those who qualify, generates significant compensatory revenue for the school district that we depend on; last year alone was over \$375,000. We use these funds to provide for additional educational programming.





Minnewaska Laker Foundation's Endowment Program

Building A Legacy of Excellence In Minnewaska Area Schools

The Minnewaska Laker Foundation was formed in 2007 as a non-profit organization to support and improve activities programs for students in the Minnewaska Area School District. The mission has since expanded to also support classroom excellence. We seek to emphasize academics and personal development of students in the classroom and in quality activity programs, as well as create meaningful ties among the schools, alumni, and greater community.

Endowment Fund:

The purpose of the Minnewaska Laker Foundation Endowment Fund is to:

- raise a significant amount of money,
- invest and preserve the principal, and
- use the earnings generated to enhance and support programs, facilities and scholarships for current and former students in the Minnewaska Area Schools. The Fund earnings would be used for items "above and beyond" the items that are typically funded in the school budget (for example, classroom textbooks, furniture, and staff development are paid for by the School and not the Fund)

The Fund will provide lasting financial support for the Laker Foundation's mission to support student excellence. The Foundation's initial goal is to raise \$3,000,000 by January 1, 2024.

Donations Offer Special Naming Opportunities:

Gifts of \$5,000 or more to the Foundation will entitle the donor to have an area in the Minnewaska schools named as the donor designates. This is an opportunity for recognition of businesses or individuals (either the donors themselves or in honor of others, such as family, friends, teachers, or administrators). We were excited to receive several donations in the past year, including naming the Art Suite in honor of longtime art teachers Susan Fossen and Ivie Cooley and the Music Suite in honor of choir director Gordy Moeller. There are many other naming opportunities listed on the Foundation's website at minnewaska.k12.mn.us/foundation

Please consider a donation, including to the Challenge Grant in recognition of Susan Fossen and Ivie Cooley!

Contact Greg Uhde at 320-424-1880 or Brianna Zuber Beckwith at 320-634-4584 (office) for more information.



JOIN US FOR HOMECOMING!



HOMECOMING WEEK September 26 - October 1

Check the website for more information coming soon!





FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

 @waskapride

 @waskapride

 @minnewaska_area_schools

**DISTRICT OFFICE, HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY ED**
25122 State Highway 28, Glenwood, MN 56334
320.239.4820

ELEMENTARY
409 4th St. SE
Glenwood, MN 56334
320.634.4567

W.I.N ACADEMY
500 John St.,
Starbuck, MN 56381
320.239.2257