

WINTER 2025-26

Minnewaska Messenger

DISTRICT 2149



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20th Annual Veterans Day Program

Nov. 11, 2025 • 9 a.m. • MAHS Main Gym
Everyone is welcome to attend

Purchase a Paver

Minnewaska Area District #2149 named Veterans Field in honor of all Veterans who have served and especially those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

In addition to Veterans Field, it is the Minnewaska Area Schools' honor to dedicate a section of our plaza, located between the baseball field and football field, to honor individuals who have served.

You can purchase an engraved, personalized paver to be displayed in the plaza. Each engraved paver is $7\frac{3}{8}$ x $3\frac{3}{8}$ and can be purchased for \$35. Placement of pavers within the plaza is random, and installation may not happen right away.

If you would like to purchase a paver, please fill out the form and send it to our office via email or mail. To access the form, visit our website, Community Education tab > scroll to the bottom of the page, in the blue box named "Resources," click on "Veteran Paver Order Form."

Please email the completed form to avanzee@isd2149.org or mail it to the school.

**SCAN TO
PURCHASE**



National Community Education Day



A Sweet Surprise

Minnewaska Area Schools is proud to celebrate National Community Education Day, a time to recognize the lifelong learning opportunities we offer for learners of all ages.

To celebrate, we've delivered cookies to each school building and hidden two \$25 Community Education gift certificates.

One in Glenwood and one in Starbuck. These can be used toward any upcoming class, trip, or event.

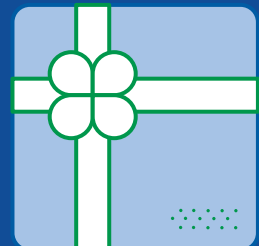
If you find one, bring it to the Community Education Office to redeem. While you're there, we'd love to tell you more about what's coming up and help you register for your next adventure.

You never know what you might discover when you stop by. Thank you for supporting Community Education and helping us make learning a lifelong pursuit.



Give the Gift of Learning and Fun

Looking for the perfect holiday gift? Community Education gift cards are now available at the Community Education Office. Whether it's enrichment classes, fitness programs, or special events, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Stop in and pick up a gift that keeps on giving all year long.



A Letter From Angie VanZee, Community Education Director



Hello Laker Families and Community Members,

As we enter the winter season, I would like to thank you for the warm welcome I've received since assuming the role of Community Education Director. It has been a true joy to connect with so many of you and begin planning opportunities that bring people together to learn, grow, and engage.

Our team is working hard to bring new energy and ideas to the Community Education program.

As we plan for the upcoming seasons, we would love to hear from YOU. If you have a talent, hobby, or interest you'd be willing to share with others, or if you have ideas for classes you'd like to see offered, please reach out to the Community Ed office. Community input is key to helping our program grow and meet the needs of those we serve.

We hope you'll take some time to explore the current Minnewaska Messenger. It's filled with great opportunities for learners of all ages. From enrichment classes and youth activities to adult wellness and lifelong learning, there's something for everyone this season. Join us and try something new!

We're excited to announce the hiring of Angie Blair as our new Community Education Administrative Assistant.

Angie brings energy and organization to our team and is ready to assist you with registration, class information, facility rental, and more. You can reach Angie at (320)239-1305 or by email at ablair@isd2149.org.



We are proud to highlight that Little Lakers Child Care, located in Starbuck, **currently has openings for families in need of high-quality care.** Our staff provides a safe, nurturing, and developmentally appropriate environment for children from infants through preschool age. For more information, please contact Sarah Traphagen at straphagen@isd2149.org.

For families with school-aged children, we encourage you to explore our Before- and After-School Child Care program, as well as our Non-School Day Care options. These programs offer structured, engaging

environments for your child outside of the regular school day. To learn more, please contact Audrey Frey at afrey@isd2149.org.

We are also proud to offer a variety of Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes for families with young children. These classes focus on early learning, parent-child interaction, and support for parents navigating the early years of their child's development. To learn more about current ECFE offerings or with any questions, please contact Sue Currens at scurrens@isd2149.org.

We're excited to announce that the Minnewaska pool will be open for open swim on select dates this winter, as listed in this catalogue. Open swim is a fun and healthy way for families and individuals of all ages to stay active during the colder months. Whether you're looking to relax, play, or exercise, we invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy the water. Check the Community Education offerings in this catalogue for exact dates and times, and make plans to join us at the pool!

Need a Space? Rent Our Facilities.

Minnewaska Area Schools offers the use of its facilities for community events, practices, meetings, and more. If your group or organization is looking for a place to gather, we invite you to view our facility rental information and request form located on the Community Education page of our district website.

**FACILITY RENTAL
REQUEST**



We look forward to a winter filled with learning and community connection. Thank you for supporting Minnewaska Community Education. We can't wait to see you at a class, event, or program soon.

If you have any questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to contact our office at (320) 239-1304 or email me directly at avanzee@isd2149.org.

Wishing you a joyful and safe winter season,

Angie VanZee, Community Education Director
Minnewaska Area Schools

Community Education Classes



How to Register Online



Go to the Minnewaska Area School website

<https://www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us>



Click on Community Ed



Login or create an Account

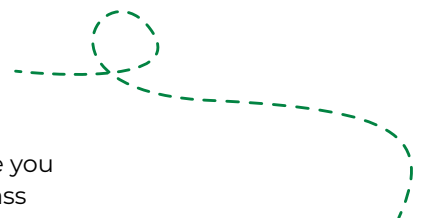
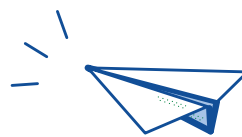


Add the course(s) to your cart and check out

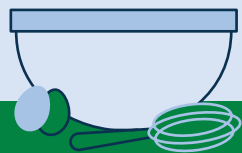
Registration is not complete until payment is made. No refunds will be made after the class begins. A full refund will be made if enrollment is not sufficient to run the class. If you do not have access to a computer (or do not feel comfortable registering online), please call (320) 239-1305. Questions, please contact (320) 239-1305.

All registrations taken after the registration deadline will have a \$5 flat charge added to the total fee. Shirts are not guaranteed if registered after the deadline.

Have a Talent You Would Like to Share?



Do you have a special talent or ability that you would like to share with others? Have you considered teaching a Community Education Class? Instructors can design their class and pick their schedule. Instructors are paid! You do not need a teaching license to teach a class. Call the Community Education Office at (320) 239-1304 for more information.



YOUTH ENRICHMENT

Kids in the Kitchen: Pie Edition (Grades K–6)

Join us for a culinary adventure in Kids in the Kitchen: Pie Edition! This hands-on class is perfect for budding cooks who are ready to roll up their sleeves and dive into the world of pie-making. From savory pizza pies to sweet dessert pies, students will explore a variety of delicious creations, all while learning valuable kitchen skills. Whether it's a cheesy pizza, a flaky fruit pie, or a surprise savory treat, each class will bring something new to the table. No experience needed, just curiosity, creativity, and a big appetite for fun! Spots are limited, so grab your apron and get ready to bake, taste, and explore the wonderful world of pies!

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Nov. 11
- Time: 3:15–5 p.m.
- Cost: \$27
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Registration Deadline: Nov. 6
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Kids in the Kitchen: Cookie Edition (Grades K–6)

This December, we're turning up the yule tide cheer with a sweet holiday baking adventure! Young chefs will dash into the world of Christmas cookies, learning the ingredients for success in the kitchen while mixing, decorating, and sprinkling their way to festive creations. From sugar cookies to gingerbread delights, it's the perfect recipe for holiday magic and hands-on fun. So don't be a grinch, sleigh the season with us in this cookie-tastic class!

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Dec. 16
- Time: 3:15–5 p.m.
- Cost: \$30
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Registration Deadline: Dec. 11
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Kids in the Kitchen: Winter Edition (Grades K–6)

Bundle up and join us for Kids in the Kitchen: Winter Edition, a hands-on cooking adventure designed especially for students in grades K–6! In this frosty, fun-filled class, young chefs will whisk away their worries as they learn essential kitchen safety, cool cooking techniques, and the importance of teamwork, all while creating delicious, winter-themed treats that will warm their hearts. From frosty cupcakes to snowflake-shaped snacks, this class is snow joke when it comes to tasty fun. Get ready to chill out in the kitchen and warm up with tasty treats. Come make memories and treats that are snow much better together!

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Jan. 6
- Time: 3:15–5 p.m.
- Cost: \$27
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 2
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30



Kids in the Kitchen: Sports Edition (Grades K–6)

Get ready to mix, stir, and score big in the kitchen with a hands-on cooking adventure designed especially for students in grades K–6! In this fun and engaging class, young chefs will learn basic kitchen safety, cooking techniques, and the importance of teamwork—all while creating delicious, sports-themed treats that celebrate their favorite games and activities. From football shaped snacks to Olympic worthy bites, every session is packed with creativity, learning, and lots of laughs. Spots fill up fast—register today!

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Feb. 24
- Time: 3:15–5 p.m.
- Cost: \$27
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Registration Deadline: Feb. 20
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Movie with Friends: December (Grades K–6)

Get ready for a laid-back evening of laughter, good company, and classic movie theatre vibes! Join us for Movie Night with Friends, where we'll enjoy a movie together on the big screen, complete with all your favorite movie snacks. Movie to be played: **The Santa Claus**.

DETAILS

- Date: Thursday, Dec. 18
- Time: 3:15–5:15 p.m.
- Cost: \$7
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Dec. 17
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Movie with Friends: January (Grades K–6)

Get ready for a laid-back evening of laughter, good company, and classic movie theatre vibes! Join us for Movie Night with Friends, where we'll enjoy a movie together on the big screen, complete with all your favorite movie snacks. Movie to be played: **Smallfoot**.

DETAILS

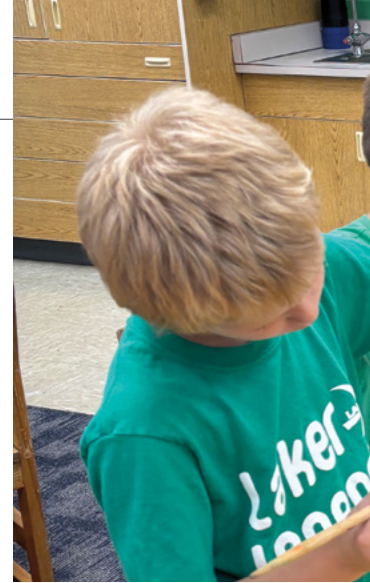
- Date: Thursday, Jan. 8
- Time: 3:15–5:15 p.m.
- Cost: \$7
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 7
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Movie with Friends: March (Grades K–6)

Get ready for a laid-back evening of laughter, good company, and classic movie theatre vibes! Join us for Movie Night with Friends, where we'll enjoy a movie together on the big screen, complete with all your favorite movie snacks. Movie to be played: **How to Train Your Dragon**.

DETAILS

- Date: Thursday, Mar. 26
- Time: 3:15–5:15 p.m.
- Cost: \$7
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Mar. 25
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30



Maker Mondays

Start your week with curiosity, creativity, and hands-on fun! Maker Mondays is back and better than ever, giving students the chance to tinker, design, build, and explore using a variety of exciting STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) tools. From Beebots and Osmos to 3-D pens and Puzzlets, students will explore new technology and materials while building critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Risk-taking and learning through mistakes are encouraged in this inspiring, interactive environment!

DETAILS

- Dates: Nov. 10, 17, 24
- Time: 2:45–4 p.m.
- Location: MAES Media Center
- Fee: \$50

FAMILY FUN

Bell Museum’s Exploradome: Zoom! From the Earth to the Edge of the Universe (Planetarium)

Explore the far reaches of the galaxy in the Bell Museum’s Exploradome! Guests will take the pilot’s seat in this immersive show—starting right here on Earth and traveling all the way to the edge of the observable universe. Along the way, participants will gain a true sense of the vast scale of our solar system, galaxy, and the universe itself. This unforgettable experience is **family-friendly** and perfect for anyone curious about space and science. **You must register to secure your spot.** Don’t miss your chance! Register early, as space is limited!

DETAILS

Available Show Times:

- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2025
4:30–5:10 p.m., 5:20–6:00 p.m., 6:10–6:50 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 2025
11:30–12:10 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Auxiliary Gym
- Cost: Free will donation
- A maximum of 25 participants will be admitted per show.

Intro to Fishing with Local Fishing Guide, Rylan Hatlestad

This class is a 1.5-hour session open to both adults and children ages 10 and up. Participants will be introduced to several key aspects of fishing, including identifying lakes and finding fish, understanding the basics of fishing equipment, learning effective techniques, exploring fish behavior, practicing knot tying, and baiting a hook. To top it off, each participant will also receive a 15% off coupon to book a fishing trip, along with some tackle!

DETAILS

- When: Thursday, Feb. 12, 2026
- Time: 3:30–5 p.m.
- Where: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Age: Anyone 10+
- Cost: \$50



Ready for Work, Beyond Ready for Life (Grade 9 and Older)

This session is dedicated to helping support professional development. Discover the skills employers seek, start building your resume, and learn what to expect from an interview. Participants are encouraged to bring resumes and cover letters.

DETAILS

- Date: Dec. 15
- Time: 3:30–4:30 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Room #E164
- Fee: \$5
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 8
- Presented in partnership with Pope County 4-H

Pope County 4-H

4-H offers a wide variety of opportunities for youth to connect with sparks of interest and engage in high quality project-based learning. It is a **free** program for youth in grades K through one year past high school. 4-H offers local opportunities here in Pope County as well as regional, statewide, national, and virtual opportunities.

(320) 634-7734
pope@umn.edu

**REGISTER
TODAY**



FEATURES

- Free Virtual Offerings: Babysitting Clinics, Wildlife Wednesdays, Tasty Tuesdays
- Develop durable skills to last a lifetime
- FLOP Ambassador Program: a local leadership team for youth grades 6+
- Morris Regional Camp: For youth grades 3–6 (7+ can apply to be counselors). Experience the fun of 2 nights and 3 days away at summer camp, but live in luxury on the UMN Morris Campus!

Babysitting Clinic (Grade 5 and Older)

Interested in babysitting? This clinic is the perfect starting point for youth looking to gain the skills and confidence needed to care for children. Participants will learn the basics of child care, safety, emergency response, and age-appropriate play through interactive lessons and discussions.

DETAILS

- Dates: Feb 2–3 and 5–6, 2026
- Time: 3:30–4:30 p.m.
- Fee: \$30
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 12
- Presented in partnership with Pope County 4-H

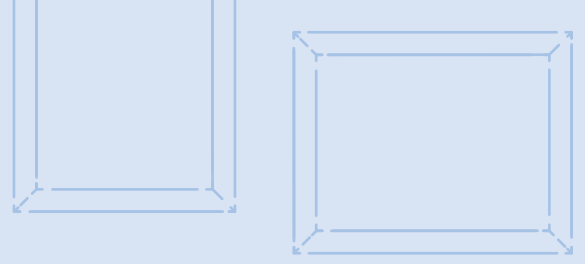
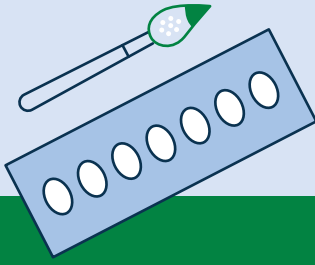
Central Lakes Driving School

Meet Minnesota state requirements with ease.

<https://centrallakesdrivingschool.com/>

IF YOU'RE UNDER 18, MN LAW REQUIRES

- 30 hours of classroom instruction
- 6 hours of behind-the-wheel (BTW) training with a licensed instructor



ART

Crafty Kids: Falling for Crafts (Grades K–6)

Dive into the rich colors and cozy vibes of fall with this crafting adventure designed especially for kids in grades K–6. Explore a variety of fall-themed crafts, from intricate leaf art and textured pumpkin designs to DIY autumn decorations that you can proudly display at home. This class encourages creativity, fine motor skills, and artistic expression, making it perfect for kids who want to take their crafting to the next level while celebrating the beauty of the season.

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Nov. 25
- Time: 3:15–4:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$25
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Nov. 16
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30



Crafty Kids: Gingerbread House Workshop (Grades K–6)

Unleash your imagination and sweeten up your holiday season in this gingerbread house building class! Whether you're a seasoned candy architect or a first-time frosting designer, students K–6 will enjoy crafting their own unique gingerbread masterpiece. Each participant will receive a pre-assembled gingerbread house base, a variety of colorful candies, frosting, and decorations to personalize their creation. We'll explore basic design tips, structural tricks, and let your creativity run wild in a festive, stress-free environment. This class is perfect for spreading cheer, making memories, and celebrating the season with edible art. No experience needed—just bring your holiday spirit and get ready for some sugary fun! Each student will take home their custom creation to show off (or snack on)!

DETAILS

- Date: Thursday, Dec. 4
- Time: 3:15–4:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$30
- Location: FACS Room #E156
- Registration Deadline: Nov. 26
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Crafty Kids: Winter Whimsy (Grades K–6)

Bundle up and get ready for some frosty fun! In this winter-themed craft class, kids will explore the magic of the season through creative projects that celebrate all things chilly and bright. Perfect for K–6 artists eager to embrace the cozy, sparkling spirit of winter while building their crafting skills in a fun, friendly environment!

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Jan. 20
- Time: 3:15–4:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$25
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 15
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30



Valentines Vibes (Grades K–6)

Calling all creative kids in grades K-6! This Valentine's Day, unleash your artistic side in a fun workshop designed to celebrate friendship, kindness, and self-expression. Whether you're crafting for a friend, family, or yourself, this class will inspire you to spread love through art while sharpening your creative skills. All materials are provided, just bring your imagination! Celebrate Valentine's Day with creativity and confidence in this special workshop!

DETAILS

- Date: Tuesday, Feb. 3
- Time: 3:15–4:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$25
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 29
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

Rainbow Rush Crafts (Grades K–6)

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a burst of color and creativity! In this crafts class, students will explore advanced craft techniques to design unique rainbow-themed projects inspired by the luck and magic of the holiday. From intricate paper weaving to detailed shamrock decorations, this class challenges students to think creatively while honing their artistic skills. Perfect for grades K-6, participants will leave with brilliant crafts that brighten up any space and showcase their craftsmanship.

DETAILS

- Date: Thursday, Mar. 19
- Time: 3:15–4:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$25
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Registration Deadline: Mar. 13
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 30

MAES Art Club Winter Session (Grades K–3)

This creative extracurricular cohort offers young artists additional time to explore and experiment with various skills and media. The young artists' interest and curiosity lead to choice-based studio time. Options may include drawing, painting, clay, printmaking, and assemblage of recycled materials.

DETAILS

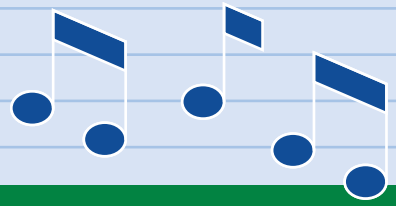
- Dates: Tuesdays, Nov. 11, 18, 25, Dec. 2
- Time: 2:45–4 p.m.
- Cost: \$50
- Location: Elementary Art Room
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 20

MAMS Art Club Winter Session (Grades 4–8)

This creative extracurricular cohort provides additional time for young artists to explore and experiment with various skills and media. The young artists' interest and curiosity leads to choice-based studio time. Options may include drawing, painting, clay, printmaking, as well as assemblage of recycled materials.

DETAILS

- Dates: Tuesdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27
- Time: 3–4:15 p.m.
- Cost: \$50
- Location: High School Art Room
- Instructor: Bryan Draxten
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 20



MUSIC



Instant Guitar for Hopelessly Busy People

Have you always wanted to learn the guitar but never found the time? In just one fun and engaging evening, this crash course will have you playing basic chords and strumming along to your favorite songs—no previous experience or private lessons required! Each session includes hands-on instruction, lecture/demonstration, and online resources to keep you learning after the class ends.

Note: Participants must register separately for each date listed below.

DETAILS

- Instructor: Craig Coffman
craigcoffman@justonceclasses.com, chordsarekey.com
- Location: Online via Zoom
- Ages: 13+
- Fee: \$55 per session (includes online book, follow-up lessons, professionally recorded class, and unlimited Q&A)

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2025, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People

Learn how to play the piano the way the pros do—using chords! In this one-session crash course, you'll discover how playing piano can be fun, simple, and rewarding without years of traditional lessons. No experience necessary. This course is partly hands-on instruction and partly lecture/demonstration, all delivered online via Zoom. You'll walk away with skills that can give you years of musical enjoyment.

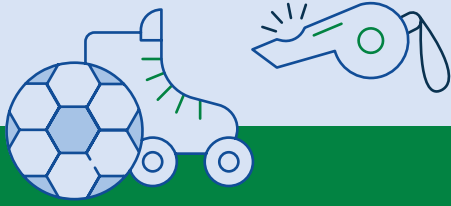
Note: Participants must register separately for each date listed below.

DETAILS

- Instructor: Craig Coffman
craigcoffman@justonceclasses.com, chordsarekey.com
- Location: Online via Zoom
- Ages: 13+
- Fee: \$55 per session (includes online book, follow-up lessons, professionally recorded class, and unlimited Q&A)

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Monday, Nov. 24, 2025, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 1, 2025, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 19, 2026, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- Monday, Feb. 2, 2026, 6:30–9:30 p.m.



SPORTS

Saturday Youth Girls Basketball (Grades K–2)

Join us for skill-building, fun drills, and games designed just for our youngest Lakers. A great way to learn the basics while having fun with friends!

DETAILS

- Nov. 15, 22; Dec. 6, 13 and 20
- Location: Minnewaska Area Elementary School
- Time: 9:45 a.m.–10:30 a.m.
- Cost: \$40 and includes a T-shirt

Saturday Youth Girls Basketball (Grades 3–6)

Take your game to the next level! Players will focus on developing their skills, teamwork, and game play in a fun, encouraging environment. We will be using both gyms at the Minnewaska Area High School.

*Any girls in grades 4–6 interested in traveling basketball must sign up through Community Ed.

*If you have any questions, please contact Coach Nick Danielson at (320) 491-3309.

DETAILS

- Location: Minnewaska Area High School
- Nov. 15, Auxiliary Gym
- Nov. 22, Main Gym
- Dec. 6, 13, 20, Main Gym
- Time: 8 a.m.–9:15 a.m.
- Cost: \$40 and includes a T-shirt

Youth Girls Traveling Basketball (Grades 3–7)

We invite all girls in Grades 3–7 to participate in our traveling basketball program!

GENERAL INFORMATION

One practice per week (typically evenings, 1–1.5 hours). Practices may also be held on weekends, depending on coach and player availability. Practices will focus on teaching basketball fundamentals and preparing players for games. Practices will be held in available gym space (Minnewaska Schools, Glenwood, Starbuck). Tournaments are typically held on weekends.

SATURDAY MORNING BASKETBALL REQUIREMENT

All traveling players must also participate in Saturday Morning Basketball. Registration for traveling basketball automatically includes Saturday Morning Basketball—no need to register twice.

Coaches will contact families after registration to coordinate practice times and share details.

DETAILS

- Registration Deadline: Nov. 14, 2025
- Cost: \$75 (Grade 3), \$110 (Grades 4–7)
- Coach: TBD (families will be notified once assigned)
- Tournaments: TBD





Saturday Youth Boys Basketball (Grades K–6)

The Minnewaska Lakers boys' basketball program will host multiple basketball practices from November to December to enhance offensive and defensive skills. These practice sessions will feature developmentally appropriate fundamental drills, contests, mini games, and other fun competitions to help build confidence and a love for the sport of basketball. These future Laker basketball players will receive direct instruction from Players and Coaches from the Minnewaska Laker HS Basketball program.

DETAILS

- Cost: \$40 (includes camp t-shirt)
- Registration Deadline: Saturday, Nov. 8

SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 15

- Grades K-2: 9:30–10:15 a.m. at MAHS Auxiliary Gym
- Grades 3–6: 9:30–10:30 a.m. at MAHS Auxiliary Gym

Saturday, Nov. 22 and Dec. 6, 13, 20

- Kindergarten: 9:30–10:15 a.m. at MAHS Auxiliary Gym
- Grades 1–2: 10:30–11:15 a.m. at MAHS Auxiliary Gym
- Grades 3–4: 9:30–10:30 a.m. at MAHS Main Gym
- Grades 5–6: 10:30–11:30 a.m. at MAHS Main Gym

REGISTER TODAY



Youth Boys Traveling Basketball (Grades 3–8)

We invite all boys in Grades 3–8 to participate in our traveling basketball program!

GENERAL INFORMATION

1–2 practices per week (typically evenings, 1–1.5 hours). Practices may also be held on weekends, depending on coach and player availability. Practices will focus on teaching basketball fundamentals and preparing players for games. Practices will be held in available gym space (Minnewaska Schools, Glenwood, Starbuck). Tournaments are typically held on weekends. Jersey's will be provided.

SATURDAY MORNING BASKETBALL REQUIREMENT

All traveling players must also participate in Saturday Morning Basketball. Registration for traveling basketball automatically includes Saturday Morning Basketball—no need to register twice.

Coaches will contact families after registration to coordinate practice times and share details.

DETAILS

- Registration Deadline: Nov. 1
- Cost: \$75 (Grade 3), \$110 (Grades 4–6), \$60 (Grades 7–8)
Price includes Saturday morning fee
- Coach: TBD (families will be notified once assigned)
- Tournaments: TBD

Junior Laker Dance—Session 2

The Junior Laker Dance program offers youth dancers the opportunity to learn and grow in both **kick** and **jazz** styles. Dancers will gain skills in technique, teamwork, and performance in a fun and supportive environment. The session culminates in a performance to showcase what they've learned!

Note: Jazz shoes are required but not included in the registration fee.

DETAILS

- Dates: Jan. 15–Apr. 16, 2026
- Days: Thursdays
- Times: 5:30–6:15 p.m. (Grades K–2); 6:15–7:45 p.m. (Grades 3–6)
- Location: MAES Gymnasium
- Cost: \$125/dancer (Grades K–2); \$130/dancer (Grades 3–6)
- Performance Shirt: Included at no cost
- Performance Opportunity: One scheduled event during the session

Junior Lakers Swim Club – Winter Session (Grades 3–7)

Boys and Girls in grades 3–7 who have passed level 2 of swimming lessons. For kids to learn to swim more effectively and build stamina to swim in Minnesota's lakes and pools.

What will you learn?

The four competitive strokes are freestyle, backstroke, butterfly, and breaststroke. Also, we will teach competitive turns, starts, intro to diving, and swim games. We will be swimming mostly the length of the pool, 25 yards (length of the pool) consistently.

What do I need to bring?

A swimsuit, towel, hair tie (if hair is long), goggles (available for purchase for \$10), and an "I will try!" mindset.

*Ride the bus to the high school/middle school, walk to the pool doors, and wait for the coaches to let you in.

*Parents, please discuss with your child where/when you will be picking them up. (Door number etc.)

DETAILS

- Jan. 12, 2026 through Feb. 19, 2026 (10 sessions); 2 days a week on Mon/Thurs; No practice on Jan. 19 or Feb. 16
- Time: 3:30–4:30 p.m.
- Tentative Swim Meet: Feb. 9, 2026, 4:15–4:45 pm; All are welcome to watch!
- Cost: \$50 per participant
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 8, 2026
- Maximum number of swimmers: 40
- Coaches: HS coaches/swimmers, Katie Heidelberger, Lindsey Sweep & Linda Hoffmann; Contact: minnewaskalakerswim@gmail.com

Laker Youth Wrestling (Gender Neutral)

DETAILS

- Parent Meeting: Monday, Nov. 24, 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Please enter through the District Doors (located on the far left) to access the auditorium.
- Tournament Info: At this time, it's unknown how tournaments will be run this year. Details regarding tournaments/competitions will be communicated via the Team Reach app as soon as we know more (to get the app, see below).
- Cost: \$40 per child plus a \$40 singlet deposit. *Bring any outstanding singlets in the first week of practice (No deposit refunded)*
- Location: High School Wrestling Room
- Registration: Online, through the Minnewaska Area Community Ed page.
- Registration Deadline: Sunday, Nov. 30 (t-shirts not guaranteed for late registrants)

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

- Practice Dates: Mondays & Thursdays beginning Monday, Dec. 1, through Feb. 26.; Note: Wrestlers signed up for NYWA only; practice continues through March.
- Grades Pre-K–2: Mondays & Thursdays, 6–6:45 p.m.*
- Grades 3–6: Mondays & Thursdays, 7–8:15 p.m.*

*Parents must remain in the hallway as coaches will continue closed-door practice.

Information will be sent home from school with elementary students, including those from Glacial Hills, during the first week of November.

Team Reach App: Team Reach App will be used to communicate messages to parents. Download the APP on Android or iOS. Open app and enter group code "MYWR2025".

For questions regarding the youth programs, please contact Kevin Mau at (218) 770-8506 or email the Minnewaska Wrestling Booster Club at mwrestlingbc@gmail.com.





ADULT ENRICHMENT

Snowman Guided Paint Class

Paint a cheerful snowman to brighten up your winter décor. This guided painting class is perfect for beginners and experienced painters alike. You will be led step by step to create your own seasonal masterpiece in a relaxed and fun environment. All materials are provided. Come ready to relax, paint, and enjoy a creative evening.

DETAILS

- Date: Thursday, Nov. 13
- Time: 6:30–8:30 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Art Room #E161
- Audience: Adults
- Fee: \$35 per person
- Instructor: Danielle Lien

Wreaths or Porch Pots

Get festive this holiday season with Uptown Florist! In this hands-on workshop, you'll choose to design either a beautiful evergreen wreath or a porch pot arrangement! Perfect for decorating your home for the holidays. Uptown Florist will provide all the greenery, ribbons, and seasonal touches to make your creation unique. Bring your holiday spirit and creativity, and leave with a gorgeous piece to enjoy all season long!

DETAILS

- Date: Saturday, November 22
- Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Cost: \$50 for Wreaths, \$60 for Porch Pots
- Audience: Adults and older teens
- Location: MAHS Art Room #E161
- Instructor: Alison Radil, Uptown Florist
- Registration Deadline: November 19
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 20





Crockpot Comforts–Meal Prep Made Easy!

Looking for new recipe ideas and a way to save time in the kitchen? Join us for a hands-on Crockpot Meal Prep Workshop where you'll prepare 5 hearty meals! **Superb Beef Stroganoff, Perfectly Tender Pulled Pork, Creamy Bayou Chicken, Chicken Enchilada Soup, and Honey Mustard Chicken, and take-home recipes for 5 more to try later.** Cost includes all Tastefully Simple products and ingredients. Participants simply bring their own meat in gallon-size freezer bags. There will be a few ingredients to purchase when serving. Don't miss this fun and flavorful afternoon that will save you time, money, and mealtime stress! Each meal serves 4-6 adults.

DETAILS

- Sunday, Nov. 16
- Time: 1–2:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$90
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Instructor: Lisa Burns, (320) 815-9409
- Registration Deadline: Nov. 8

Soup's On Meal Prep Workshop

Warm hearts and bellies this winter with five comforting, simple soups! At this hands-on workshop, you'll prep **Cheeseburger Soup, Creamy Vegetable Beef Soup, Ranch Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Rustic Turkey Noodle Soup, and White Bean & Ham Soup.** Just add your fresh ingredients to the Tastefully Simple products provided, and you'll have cozy, delicious meals ready when you are. Cost includes all Tastefully Simple products and ingredients. Participants simply bring their own meat in gallon-size freezer bags. Each meal serves 4-6 adults.

DETAILS

- Sunday, Jan. 11, 2026
- Time: 1–2:30 p.m.
- Cost: \$94
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Instructor: Lisa Burns, (320) 815-9409
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 3

Women's Strength & Conditioning Class

Are you ready to sculpt your body, boost your confidence, and embrace your inner strength? Join our Women's Strength Training Class and embark on a transformative fitness journey like never before! Expert Guidance: We will guide you with personalized workouts, ensuring you reach your fitness goals effectively and safely, whatever they may be. Progressive Workouts: Say goodbye to monotony! Our classes offer a variety of exercises, from resistance training to functional movements, keeping you engaged and excited about every session.

DETAILS

- Sundays, Mondays & Wednesdays; Nov. 2–Dec. 22
- Time: 7–8:05 p.m.
- 30 minutes of Strength Training, 25 minutes of High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT), 10 minutes of Core/Abs
- Cost: \$125 for the full 8-week session
- Location: MAHS Weight Room

55+ Driver Discount Program

Qualify for a 10% discount on your auto insurance by completing the 55+ Driver Improvement Program! This four-hour in-person refresher course is designed for drivers age 55 and older who have previously completed an eight-hour defensive driving course approved by the state of Minnesota. Minnewaska Area Community Education will offer an **in-person** class at the Minnewaska Area High School Media Center **if at least 10 people are enrolled.**

Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate eligible for a 10% auto insurance discount.

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 28, Feb. 25

DETAILS

- Time: 3–7 p.m.
- Cost: \$27
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Instructor: Minnesota Highway Safety and Research Center
- Registration: Call (320) 239-1305

Regional Online Career Collaborative Online Courses

A collaboration of Adult Education consortia in Northern MN.

REGISTER
TODAY



COURSE OFFERINGS

- English for Healthcare Pathways
- Professionalism for Healthcare Careers
- Pre-CNA
- Prep for the Nursing Program Entrance Exam
- English for Environmental Services
- English Vocabulary for MN Driver's Manual
- Knowledge & Content for Written Driver's Exam
- Fast Paced Knowledge & Content for Written Driver's Exam
- Math Foundations for Paraprofessionals
- Paraprofessional Training & Certification

Free Adult Basic Education Classes

Locations in Alexandria, Melrose, Morris, Sauk Centre

Learn English Aprende Inglés

Classes ongoing.
Clases en curso.
Call for class times.
Llamada para horarios de clases.

Volunteer as a Tutor

Help tutor an adult to learn English, improve math skills or prepare for the GED. Free training through Literacy Minnesota. Interested? Call (320) 762-3312.

GED, Adult Basic Education – Free Classes Offered

Adult basic education and GED preparation classes are free for adults and open to anyone age 17 and older who is not presently enrolled in a regular secondary or day program.

Through Adult Basic Education, participants may take a free online GED or ACCUPLACER test preparation class at their convenience. Classes are ongoing.

Both of these online classes provide access via the internet 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To learn more about these classes, contact Alexandria Area Basic Education at (320) 762-3312 ext. 1.





MAS Adult Community Ed at Central Square

Register for these classes through Minnewaska Area Schools Community Education. Registration is required for all classes, even free ones, to help us plan and ensure the best experience for everyone.

Open Art Studio & Wellness Activity

Unwind with a short wellness exercise, followed by expressive art making in a relaxed, open studio setting. Afterward, enjoy the rest of the time creating freely in the open studio. CSQ staff will be available for support, and all necessary supplies will be provided at no cost.

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5

DETAILS

- 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square Art Studio, Room 209
- Cost: Free, thanks to grant support
- Instructor: Jes Baggett

Holiday Pottery Workshop

Make seasonal clay ornaments or a simple painted ceramic gift. Finished pieces will be fired and ready for pickup later — no prior experience needed.

DETAILS

- Nov. 13, 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square Pottery Studio, Room 207
- Cost: \$25 per person
- Instructor: Shauna Loxtercamp

Open Pottery Studio

A relaxed evening to play with clay — use wheels or hand-build with light staff guidance. Perfect for beginners or anyone who wants more practice.

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Nov. 20, Dec. 18, Jan. 22, Feb. 19

DETAILS

- 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square Pottery Studio, Room 207
- Cost: Free, thanks to grant support
- Instructor: Shauna Loxtercamp

Yoga Workshop

Prepare for the holidays with this peaceful, beginner-friendly yoga practice. No experience needed. Bring a yoga mat or towel if you have one!

DETAILS

- Dec. 11, 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square Pottery Studio, Room 207
- Cost: \$25 per person
- Instructor: Barb Ostrander

Creative Writing Workshop

Explore short-form writing and poetry through simple prompts. No experience needed — just bring your creativity and curiosity.

DETAILS

- Jan. 15, 2026, 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square Pottery Studio, Room 207
- Cost: \$25 per person
- Instructor: Athena Kildegaard



NEW YORK BROADWAY TRIP: JUNE 1-5, 2026

Day 1

- Fly to NYC
- Central Park
- Times Square

Day 2

- Statue of Liberty
- Ellis Island
- Financial District
- Broadway Show

Day 3

- 9/11 Museum
- Observation Deck
- Broadway Show

Day 4

- Free Day
- Final Broadway Show

Day 5

- Goodbye NYC

Cost

- \$2,350 (2 people in a room with KING bed)
- \$2,400 (2 or 3 people in a room with 2 beds)
- Cost Includes: Airfare, NYC airport shuttle to/from hotel, 4 nights lodging in Times Square, tickets to attractions listed above, tickets to 3 Broadway shows, and experienced tour guide
- Cost does not include transportation to/from MSP airport

Fine Print

- \$500 deposit per person due Dec. 1, 2025 (cash or check only).*
- 20 paid participants is the min. number of participants needed. Deposit will be refunded if minimum is not met. Group does not exceed 28 participants.
- Balance due Feb. 2, 2026 (Balance due depends on room type and number of people in room (see above).
- The 3 Broadway shows will be chosen based on availability.

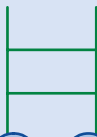


Have questions about the trip?

Tour Leader: Jeff Iverson (MAHS Choir Director)

Trip Questions: jjiverson@isd2149.org

Registration Questions: avanzee@isd2149.org



MINNEWASKA POOL

Open Swim

Make a splash this winter! Our pool will be open on select dates throughout November through February for open swim. It's the perfect way to stay active, spend time with family, or just have some fun in the water during the colder months.

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30
3:30–5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

- Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28
3:30–5:30 p.m.

JANUARY

- Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25
3:30–5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1, 8, 22
3:30–5:30 p.m.

Punch Cards Are Available!

You can purchase a 10-punch pass for just \$25, or pay \$3 per individual swim. Pay at the pool upon arrival.

Looking for a Unique Party Spot? Rent the Pool!

Did you know the Minnewaska Pool is available to rent for birthday parties and family events? Whether you're planning a celebration, family gathering, or just want to have fun in the water, the pool is a great option for all ages!

Availability is limited, and lifeguard coverage is required, so be sure to plan ahead.

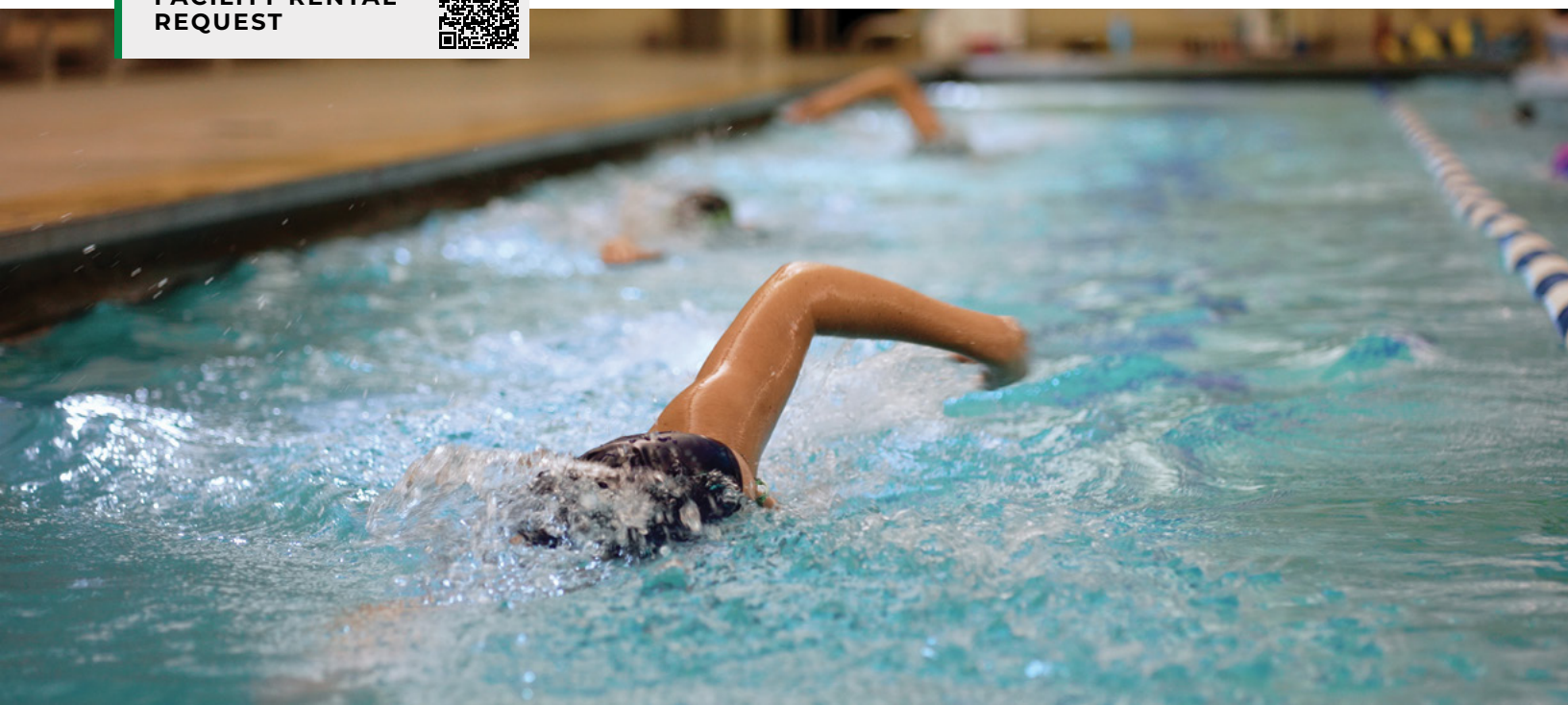
We Want Your Input on Expanded Pool Hours!

Minnewaska Community Education is exploring ways to increase access to the pool and better meet the needs of our community.

Would you be interested in participating in an early morning lap swim from 5:30–6:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, on school days? If we can secure additional lifeguard coverage, we may be able to extend the time to 7 a.m.

We're also looking to offer more open swim opportunities throughout the week. What ideas do you have? What pool times would work best for you or your family? Send your ideas and suggestions to avanzee@isd2149.org.

**FACILITY RENTAL
REQUEST**





Music Department Performances

All performances are in the Minnewaska Area High School Auditorium

Fall Musical

- Nov. 12 at 9 a.m. (K-6 Performance)
- Nov. 14 at 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 at 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 at 2 p.m.



Holiday Concerts

Band Concert (9–12)

- Nov. 20 at 7 p.m.

4th Grade Concert

- Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m.

5th Grade Concert

- Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m.

6th Grade Concert

- Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Kindergarten Concert

- Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.

1st Grade Concert

- Dec. 4 at 7 p.m.

2nd Grade Concert

- Dec. 9 at 6 p.m.

3rd Grade Concert

- Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.

Choir Concert (7–12)

- Dec. 13 at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Band Concert (5–6)

- Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.

Snow Day Make-Up Date

- Dec. 18

Band Concert (7–8)

- Jan. 13 at 7 p.m.

Band Concert (9–12)

- Tentatively Mar. 12 at 7 p.m.

Florida Band & Choir Trip

Mar. 19–27

Spring Concerts

Pop's Concert

- Apr. 18 at 7 p.m.

Band Concert (5–6)

- Apr. 28 at 7 p.m.

Band Concert (7–8)

- May 4 at 7 p.m.

1st Grade Concert

- May 5 at 6 p.m.

2nd Grade Concert

- May 5 at 7 p.m.

3rd Grade Concert

- May 7 at 6 p.m.

4th Grade Concert

- May 7 at 7 p.m.

Choir Concert (7–8)

- May 11 at 7 p.m.

5th Grade Concert

- May 12 at 6 p.m.

6th Grade Concert

- May 12 at 7 p.m.

Choir Concert (9–12)

- May 17 at 2 p.m.

Band Concert (9–12)

- May 18 at 7 p.m.

ECFE & Little Lakers Preschool

Sue Currens, Early Childhood Coordinator



Early Childhood Family Education classes (ECFE) offers classes for all families and their children ages birth through 5 (not yet in Kindergarten). ECFE classes are a fun way for you and your child to learn and grow together while exploring new experiences and meeting other families. The program engages adults and their children in educational activities and experiences that foster children's social, emotional, cognitive, physical and language skills.

What to Expect

Separating Classes

For one half of the class, families and children are together exploring and learning in the early childhood classroom. During the second half of the class, adults will separate for discussion and learning about child development and parenting topics. During this time, the children will explore the classroom with the early childhood teachers.

Non-Separating Classes

Families and children will stay together for the entire time exploring and learning in the classroom with an early childhood teacher.

Please join us for one or more of our classes and experience the benefit of parent connections and early learning activities. We look forward to being a trusted resource for learning and support for your family! For more details about ECFE, visit the Early Childhood page on the MAS website under the Schools tab.

Scholarship Collaboration

Each year, Minnewaska Preschool awards scholarships to families with demonstrated financial need. These opportunities are made possible through the generous support of United Way of Lakes and Prairies, the Minnewaska Laker Foundation, and the Minnesota Department of Education Pathway II scholarships. We are grateful to these partners for their ongoing commitment to making preschool accessible for all children in our community.



Little Laker Preschool

Little Lakers Preschool offers a fun and nurturing place for children to learn and grow, with developmentally appropriate programming taught by licensed teachers. Families can choose from full-day or half-day options, with free meals, optional transportation, and wrap-around care available for four-year-olds. Our Parent Aware 4-Star rated program uses curriculum and assessments aligned with Minnesota's Early Childhood Indicators of Progress and kindergarten standards, helping every child build the skills they need for future success.

Do you have a 3 or 4 year old?

Have they been to Early Childhood Screening?

Early Childhood Developmental Screenings are a quick check that help parents understand how their child is developing and growing. Early Childhood Developmental Screenings give parents more tools to understand and support their child's growth and development. The earlier you have your child screened the more time you have to address any needs and set them up for success. Early Childhood Screenings are held monthly at the Middle School/High School, Door 3.

Screening Dates: Nov. 10, Jan. 12
Feb. 9, Mar. 2, Mar. 30

Questions?

Sue Currens, Early Childhood Coordinator
(320) 239-1406, scurrens@isd2149.org



**SCHEDULE
SCREENING**

2026-2027 Preschool Registration

OPENS FEB. 2, 2026

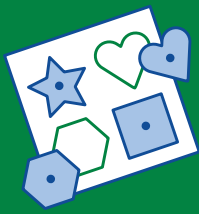
We will continue to offer full-day and half-day programming for four-year-olds with transportation and wrap-around care options. Three-year-old programming will also be available.

Save the Date

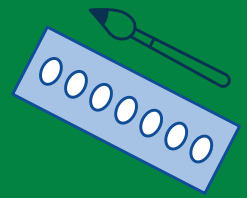
2026-2027 KINDERGARTEN CLASS

Kickoff to Kindergarten set for
Monday, Mar. 2, 2026.





EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY EDUCATION



Dad and Me: Fun with Forest Animals

For ages 3–5 with Dad or a special male caregiver

Calling all dads and little explorers! This special ECFE class is designed for dads and their preschoolers to explore the wonders of the forest together through hands-on learning, play, and discovery. In addition to the fun, this class provides a great opportunity to bond with your child and connect with other dads. Come ready to learn, laugh, and create lasting memories with your little explorer!

DETAILS

- Age: 3–5 years (not in Kindergarten)
- Date: Monday, Nov. 24
- Time: 5:30–6:30 p.m.
- Location: MAES Room 111
- Fee: \$15
- Class limit: 12
- Registration closes: Nov. 14
- Instructor: Sue Currens, Child Educator

ECFE Family Holiday Party

For families with children ages birth to 5, older siblings are welcome for this event. Celebrate the season with us at our festive Family Holiday Party! Enjoy holiday-themed crafts, music, games, treats, and playful activities for the whole family. Pizza will be provided. Come dressed in your holiday best—or coziest pajamas—and make some magical memories together! All are welcome—let's make it merry!

DETAILS

- Date: Monday, Dec. 8
- Time: 5–6:30 p.m.
- Location: MAES Cafeteria
- Fee: \$10/family
- Registration closes: Dec. 2
- Instructor: Sue Currens, Child Educator

Drop-In and Play

For children ages birth–5 and their caregiver

Stop by for some relaxed, come-and-go playtime! Drop-In and Play is a fun, informal opportunity for families to explore toys, activities, and connect with others. **No registration required**—just show up and enjoy time with your child in a playful, welcoming space. Stay for a few minutes or the whole time—whatever works for you!

DETAILS

- Dates: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27
- Time: 10:30–11:30 a.m.
- Location: MAES Room 111
- Fee: Free

Explore & Learn: Ages 2–5 (separating class)

This multi-age class will have a wide range of early learning activities! Each week will feature a new theme with a variety of literacy, math, sensory exploration, art and motor activities. Parent education discussion topics will be chosen based on the interests of the group. Sibling care is available for an additional fee of \$10/child for 7 weeks.

DETAILS

- Age: 2–5 years (not in Kindergarten)
- 7 Sessions
- Date: Tuesdays, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3, 10, 17
- Time: 10–11:30 a.m.
- Fee: Sliding Fee Scale
- Registration closes: Jan. 27



Little Explorers: Infants–Toddler Class (non-separating class)

Explore why babies do what they do and how parents can guide them during their first two years of life. Meet other parents and enjoy the play areas that will be set up for parent and child to interact. Time will be set aside for Parent Education discussion topics. Sibling care is available for an additional fee of \$10/child for 7 weeks.

DETAILS

- Age: Birth–2
- 7 sessions
- Dates: Tuesdays, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17
- Time: 8:30–9:30 a.m.
- Location: MAES Room 111
- Fee: Sliding Fee Scale
- Class limit: 12
- Registration closes: Jan. 26
- Instructors: Sue Currens, Child Educator; Stephanie Thoen, Parent Educator

Grandparents Are Special

Join us for a heartwarming one-time ECFE event celebrating the special bond between grandparents and their grandchildren! Designed for children ages 3–5 and their grandparents (or a special grand-friend), this class will include fun activities, stories, songs, and time to play and connect. Come make memories together and celebrate the love only grandparents can give! (Due to space limitations, we ask that only one adult attend with each child)

DETAILS

- Date: Monday, Mar. 16
- Time: 5–6 p.m.
- Location: MAES Room 111
- Fee: \$10
- Registration closes: Mar. 6
- Instructor: Sue Currens, Child Educator

ECFE Class Fees

Class fee covers the cost of the entire 7 week session. Pay according to your family income.

- Sibling care for seven 7-week sessions: \$10/child
- One Time Events have a one time fee. Contact Sue Currens if fee arrangements or a waiver are needed. **No families will be turned away due to inability to pay.**
- If you have any questions regarding the online registration process, contact (320) 239-1305.

Family Income

Under \$20,000	\$5
\$20,000–\$35,000	\$25
\$36,000–\$50,000	\$40
\$50,000–\$75,000	\$45
Above \$75,000	\$50

Cost per child for entire session



Little Lakers Child Care

Sarah Traphagen, Little Lakers Child Care Coordinator



My name is Sarah Traphagen, and I have been the Coordinator at Little Lakers Child Care since January 2025. Our program has grown and evolved to meet the needs of families in our community, and we are excited to continue expanding while providing high-quality care and early education for children from 6 weeks to Kindergarten.

At Little Lakers Child Care, children receive excellent care in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment. We are committed to helping every child build a strong foundation for lifelong learning and success.

Our Program Focuses

Social Skills and Emotional Development: Building friendships, sharing, and expressing emotions in a caring, supportive setting.

Language and Communication: Enhancing vocabulary, listening, and conversational skills through songs, stories, and interactive activities.

Cognitive Growth: Encouraging curiosity, problem-solving, and critical thinking through hands-on exploration.

Creative Expression: Inspiring imagination through art, music, sensory activities, and dramatic play.

Physical Development: Promoting healthy habits, balance, coordination, and motor skills through active play.

Preparation for School Success: Building confidence, independence, and foundational skills in literacy and math to ensure a smooth transition to preschool or kindergarten.

Your child will thrive in an environment that combines education with fun and enjoyment.

From early math and literacy games to sensory play and creative projects, every activity is designed to spark curiosity and foster a love of discovery.

We are proud to be a 3-Star Parent Aware-rated center, staffed with highly qualified caregivers and teachers who are dedicated to supporting children and families. To meet the diverse needs of our community, we offer flexible care options, including full-time, part-time, and drop-in care.

At Little Lakers Child Care, we believe children learn best when they feel safe, supported, and excited to explore. We welcome all families to join us as we continue to grow and serve the needs of our community.

If you have any questions about enrollment, Child Care Assistance, or program goals, please don't hesitate to reach out by phone or email. I'd love to connect with you!

Hours

- Monday–Friday
- 6 a.m.–6 p.m.

Now Enrolling: Infants Through Preschool-Aged Children

Rates

Infants (6 weeks–16 months)

- Full Time: \$235/week

Toddlers (16–33 months)

- Full Time: \$210/week
- Part Time (3 Days): \$130/week

Preschool (33 months until fully potty trained)

- Full Time: \$200/week
- Part Time (3 Days): \$120/week

Preschool (fully potty trained)

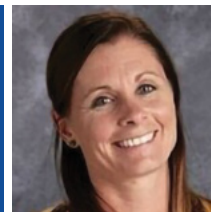
- Full Time: \$190/week
- Part Time (3 Days): \$115/week

Drop-In Care

- \$50/day



Before School, After School, and Non-School Day Child Care



We offer a Before School Program (BSP), an After School Program (ASP), and Non-School day child care (NSD) for Minnewaska students attending all-day preschool through 6th grade.

These programs will be offered during the 2025–26 school year at Minnewaska Area Elementary School (MAES). The cost is \$5.50 per day for the morning program and \$8 per day for the afternoon program. Morning care will run from 6:30–8 a.m., while afternoon care will run from 2:45–6 p.m. This includes a snack and activities. These programs offer a fun environment, professional staff, structured and unstructured play time, gym time, outdoor play, creative learning, and social and emotional growth.

Non-school day child care for students attending all-day preschool through 6th grade will also be available at MAES if staff and enrollment numbers allow. Non-school day care will run from 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. The cost for a full day is \$30/day. This includes snacks and activities; however, students must bring their own lunch. The registration cut-off will be two weeks before the non-school day(s), which will determine if child care will be available for that day. **Non-school day child care may be canceled because of a staff shortage or low enrollment numbers.** A two-week notice will be given either way.

All School-Age Child Care registration is completed online. Registration can be found under the Community Ed tab on the Minnewaska Area Schools website. Attendance can be full-time, part-time, or drop-in; however, students must be registered a minimum of 24 hours in advance.

For more information, email Audrey Frey, School-Age Child Care Director, at afrey@isd2149.org.

Hours & Cost

Morning Program

- 6:30–8 a.m.
- \$5.50 per day

Afternoon Program

- 2:45–6 p.m.
- \$8 per day

Non-School Day Care

- 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- \$30 per day

Non-School Dates Child Care May Be Offered

- Nov. 7
- Dec. 26, 29, 30, 31
- Jan. 2, 16, 19
- Feb. 13, 16
- Mar. 20, 23
- Apr. 3, 6





BOND REFERENDUM

Investing In Our Future

Voting Information

EARLY & ABSENTEE VOTING

Now – November 3

Mon. – Fri., 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

MAS District Office, Door #1

All absentee ballots must be turned in by 8 p.m. on election night, Nov. 4, to the District Office. Pope County Courthouse will not accept absentee ballots.

ELECTION DAY

Tue., Nov. 4

7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Pope County Courthouse

Please note: This special election is a combined polling place between the MAS District and the Pope County Courthouse, which differs from the past special election.

RE-INVEST IN MAS

A MESSAGE TO THE PUBLIC

Dear Minnewaska Community Members,

The Minnewaska Area School Board is asking for your support in our upcoming bond referendum, a \$25 million reinvestment in our schools that will benefit current students, future generations, and our entire community. This plan addresses critical needs: improving school safety, updating end-of-life HVAC and infrastructure, modernizing media centers, Career and Technical education spaces, and expanding early childhood and childcare facilities. It reflects strong community input and continues work started by the 2015 bond.

These improvements are not about building new schools—they're about preserving and enhancing what

we have. Healthy schools lead to healthy communities. Our facilities serve as hubs for education, wellness, and community life. Maintaining and improving them strengthens our region's future.

We encourage you to learn more, attend an informational event, and help spread the word. Thank you for supporting MAS. Today's students and tomorrow's Lakers are counting on us! Visit www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us/bond-vote for details.

—Minnewaska Area School Board of Education



Visit www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us/bond-vote for more information

Why is this a special election?

The legislature allows school districts to hold a referendum on 5 dates every calendar year. When the vote does not fall on a primary election, it is called a special election. The School Board decided to advance this proposal now because the district has current debt expiring and timing the referendum before the debt expires helps keep the overall tax impact lower. In addition, pushing back the vote to a later date delays construction start which has an impact on costs. Annual construction inflation can range from 2% to 5%. These two factors helped the school board to decide to hold a special election this November.



Key Takeaways

- On November 4, 2025, Minnewaska Area Schools voters will be asked to consider a \$25 million dollar bond question to maintain and upgrade our facilities.
- The funds will be used to address our highest priority needs which include safety and security, maintenance, learning space improvements, community wellness, and childcare.
- The plan was formed through extensive community engagement and reflects what we heard from our community in terms of priorities and tax tolerance.

Special Election Ballot

Independent School District No. 2149
(Minnewaska Public Schools)

November 4, 2025

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this:

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question.
To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question.

School District Question 1
Approval of School District Bond Issue

Yes Shall the school board of Independent School District No. 2149 (Minnewaska Public Schools) be authorized to issue its general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including security and safety improvements at school sites and facilities; the remodeling and construction of improvements to learning spaces, including updates to career and technical education (CTE), media center and early childhood spaces; the construction and equipping of a multi-purpose gymnasium and fitness space; the completion of deferred maintenance projects at school sites and facilities; and the expansion of childcare facilities?

No

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

Plan Details



High School / Middle School

Safety and Security (\$2.1M)

Identified needs include providing secure entrances for visitor management and separating buses from vehicles in the parking lot to eliminate unsafe crossings.

Maintenance (\$4.6M)

Identified needs include upgrading aged air handling units, replacing the failing parking lot, and replacing the auditorium chairs and pool filtration system.

Learning Space Improvements (\$4.6M)

Identified needs include modernizing the career and technical education wing to accommodate new programming and updating the media center to improve student engagement. Both learning spaces are nearly 35 years old.

Community Wellness (\$9M)

Identified needs include adding some additional gymnasium space to increase access for youth sports and the community. Additionally, constructing a new fitness room to better serve the students, athletes, and community.



High School / Middle School

1. Safety & Security: Secure Entries, Bus Separation
2. Maintenance: HVAC - AHU Replacements
3. Maintenance: Parking Lot Re-Build
4. Learning & Space Improvements: Career and Technical Education, Media Center
5. Maintenance: Auditorium Chairs
6. Maintenance: Pool Filters
7. Community Wellness: Multi-purpose Gym, Fitness Space

Draft Conceptual Plan–Not Final Design

Elementary School

Safety and Security (\$1.5M)

Identified needs include providing secure entrances for visitor management and separating buses from vehicles in the parking lot to eliminate unsafe crossings.

Childcare (\$3.2M)

Identified needs include adding childcare programming to the elementary school.



Elementary School

1. Childcare Entry Addition
2. Secure Entry Modification

Draft Conceptual Plan–Not Final Design



Learn more about the bond referendum



Tax Impact

How do our school taxes compare to other Districts in our area?

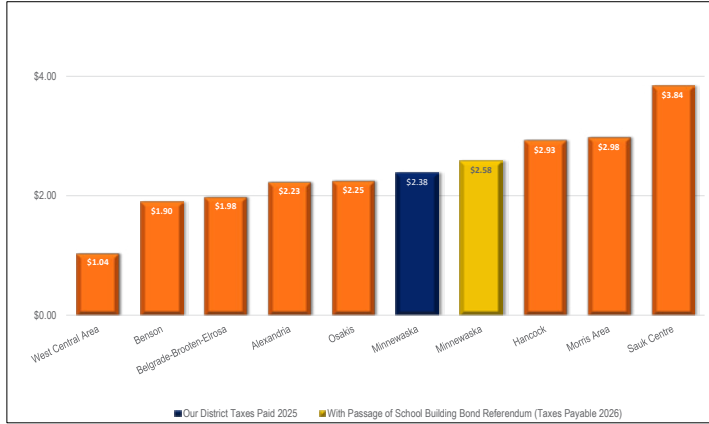
With an approved bond referendum, Minnewaska's total school property taxes for homeowners will remain one of the lowest among neighboring school districts.



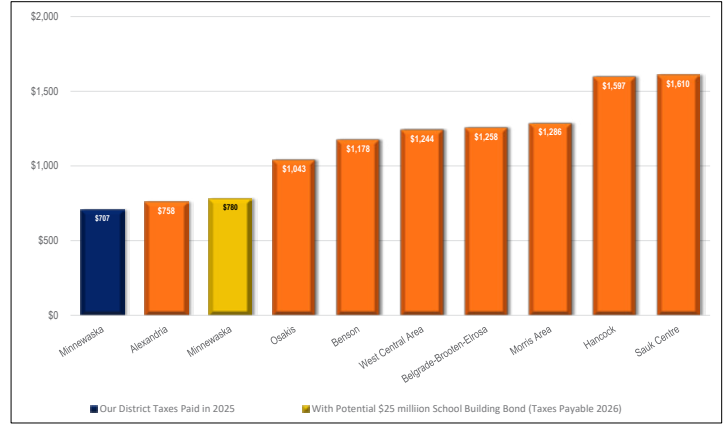
Calculate your exact tax impact



Total School Property Taxes, Payable 2025, on One Acre of Ag. Homestead Property with a total Estimated Market Value of \$5,000



Total School Property Taxes, Payable 2025, on a Home with an Estimated Market Value of \$300,000



Ag2School Tax Credit

How does the Ag2School credit impact the referendum request?

Even if the school district had other options for funding this project, the School Board believes that the Ag2School credit is the best financial decision for the district and its taxpayers. In rural Minnesota, many school districts have tax bases composed primarily of agricultural properties. State leaders recognized this fact, and foresaw the resulting difficulties the rural school districts would face in asking the public to approve facilities referendum projects. In 2019, the legislature passed an expansion of the Ag2School tax credit program, significantly reducing the tax burden on agricultural landowners. Through the Ag2School credit, the State pays 70% of the annual property taxes on agricultural properties related to this kind of referendum.

+ To maintain a level tax rate with future years, at least a portion of the interest payments due during fiscal years 2027 and 2028 would be made from bond proceeds.

* Estimated tax impact includes principal and interest payments on the new bonds. The amounts in the table are based on school district taxes for bonded debt levies only, and do not include tax levies for other purposes. Tax increases shown above are gross increases, not including the impact of the homeowner's Homestead Credit Refund ("Circuit Breaker") program. Owners of homestead property may qualify for a refund, based on their income and total property taxes. This will change the net effect of the proposed bond issue for those property owners.

**For all agricultural property, includes a 70% reduction due to the School Building Bond Agricultural Credit. Average value per acre is the total estimated market value of all land & buildings divided by total acres. If the property includes a home, then the tax impact on the house, garage, and one acre of land will be calculated in addition to the taxes per acre, on the same basis as a residential homestead or non-homestead property. If the same property owner owns more than \$3.8 million of agricultural homestead land and buildings, a portion of the property will be taxed at the higher non-homestead rate.

Bond Issue Amount	\$25,000,000
Number of Years	21
Capitalized Interest+	\$825,000

Type of Property	Estimated Market Value	Estimated Impact on Annual Taxes Payable 2026 Compared to Payable 2025*	
		Annual	Monthly
Residential Homestead	\$100,000	\$16	\$1
	150,000	31	3
	200,000	45	4
	250,000	59	5
	300,000	73	6
	325,000	80	7
	350,000	87	7
	400,000	102	9
	500,000	130	11
	700,000	196	16
Commercial/Industrial	\$100,000	\$39	\$3
	250,000	111	9
	500,000	241	20
	1,000,000	502	42
Agricultural Homestead** (average value per acre of land & buildings)	\$3,000	\$0.12	\$0.01
	4,000	0.16	0.01
	5,000	0.20	0.02
	6,000	0.23	0.02
	7,000	0.27	0.02
Agricultural Non-Homestead** (average value per acre of land & buildings)	\$3,000	\$0.23	\$0.02
	4,000	0.31	0.03
	5,000	0.39	0.03
	6,000	0.47	0.04
	7,000	0.55	0.05
Seasonal Recreational Residential	\$100,000	\$26	\$2
	200,000	52	4
	300,000	78	7
	400,000	104	9
	500,000	131	11
	600,000	163	14

Includes a 70% reduction due to School Building Bond Ag Credit

The Minnewaska Laker Foundation

Building a Stronger Future

The Minnewaska Laker Foundation was created to strengthen the educational foundation for every student in Minnewaska Area Schools. Since its formation in 2007, this non-profit organization has been dedicated to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential, whether in the classroom, on the stage, or on the field.

Supporting Students, Schools, & Community

What began as an effort to support and improve activities programs has grown into a broad mission that enhances classroom excellence, fine arts, music, athletics, and more. Contributions to the Laker Foundation provide critical funding for scholarships, co-curricular activities, equipment, facilities, and special projects that go “above and beyond” what is covered in the regular school budget. The Foundation helps promote both academic and personal growth by encouraging excellence in education and quality extracurricular programs. In doing so, it strengthens the ties between schools, alumni, and the greater community.

Why Your Support Matters

In times when State and Federal funding can be scarce or unpredictable, community support becomes even more vital. On average, 75% of Minnewaska students in grades 7-12 participate in at least one school-sponsored activity. Research consistently shows that students involved in activities achieve higher grades, attend school more regularly, and develop lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership, and self-confidence. By investing in the Laker Foundation, you are investing in both the health of our schools and the future of our community.

Endowment Fund & Naming Opportunities

One of the Foundation's key initiatives is the Endowment Fund, designed to provide lasting financial support. The goal is to raise and invest funds, preserve the principal, and use only the earnings to enhance district programs and facilities. This ensures that future generations of Lakers benefit from expanded opportunities for years to come. Special naming opportunities are also available. Gifts of \$5,000 or more can provide donors with recognition through named areas within Minnewaska schools. These lasting tributes can honor businesses, families, or individuals such as teachers, coaches, or community leaders.

How You Can Get Involved

The Minnewaska Laker Foundation invites alumni, community members, and local businesses to join in this mission. Your contributions, whether through one-time gifts, recurring donations, or participation in the Endowment Program, will benefit countless generations of Minnewaska students. Donations can be made online or by filling out a Donation Form. Unless otherwise specified, online gifts are directed to the Endowment Fund to ensure long-term impact. Together, we can help every Laker student reach their full potential and keep Minnewaska Area Schools thriving for years to come.



MINNEWASKA
LAKER FOUNDATION



Minnewaska Area Schools Angel Account

Helping Laker Students in Times of Need

The Angel Account was created in 2020 when Minnewaska Area Schools partnered with Verizon to build a cell tower behind the main campus. Through this agreement, the district receives ~\$5,000 annually in lease revenue and Eagle Bank has generously provided from their Laker Debit Card towards the Angel Account—we are very thankful!

Exciting Update: A second tower is currently being built behind Starbuck School, which will provide an additional \$5,000 annually for the next 25 years.

Purpose of the Angel Account

Funds are used to support students in need by covering essential costs such as:

- Food and meals
- Personal hygiene items
- Activity fees or participation costs
- Clothing or necessities after emergencies (ex: house fire, loss of home)

Any MAS staff member or family of a MAS student may apply for support through the Angel Account.

How to Donate

Community members and charitable groups are encouraged to support this fund to help Laker students.

- Make checks payable to: MAS – Angel Account
- Mail to:
Minnewaska Area Schools
25122 State Hwy 28
Glenwood, MN 56334



Angel Account

Walking at School

The Minnewaska High School and Minnewaska Elementary School will be open for walkers Monday through Friday when school is in session.

The High School will be open from 6:30–7:30 a.m. and 4–5:30 p.m. The Elementary school will be open from 6–7 a.m. and 3:30–6:30 p.m. Listen to KMGK for school closings.



Minnewaska Area Schools Presents Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's



Friday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 16 at 2 p.m.

Tickets

\$10 Adults

\$5 Students

Tickets available at the door

MAS Auditorium · Doors open 30 minutes prior to performance

A musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film.

Original Music and Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman. Book by Julian Fellowes. New Songs and Additional Music and Lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe. Co-Created by Cameron Mackintosh.

MARY POPPINS is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theater International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com.

Lakeside DANCE CLUB

— 2025/2026 —

Ballroom Dancing

Sundays 4-7 PM | Lessons @ 3 PM
Lakeside Ballroom - Glenwood, MN

2025

June 22 - Velvet Brass
July 20 - Katy's Swing Band
August 10 - Velvet Brass
September 14 - O'Hagan Combo
October 19 - Julie Lee
November 16 - Velvet Brass

2026

January 11 - Sax Appeal Power
February 8 - Velvet Brass
March 15 - O'Hagan Combo
April 12 - Katy's Swing Band

Dress Code: Semi-Formal (No Jeans or Shorts)

Join the Club!

Sustaining Membership - \$150 / Couple
Season Membership - \$100 / Couple
Season Membership New Member - \$50 / Couple
Season Membership Under Age 30 - \$50 / Couple
Guests: \$25 / Person



For More Information

Nikki @ 218-851-2116
lakesidedanceclub@gmail.com

Glenwood Public Library Events

Call (320) 634-3375 to register



Story Time at the Library

Thursday morning story time takes place each week when school is in session. Come enjoy books, crafts, games and more at this fun, free program!

DETAILS

- Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
- Audience: 3–5 year olds

Teen Reading Challenge

Pick up a teen reading challenge bookmark at the library. You'll receive a punch on your bookmark for every book read. After 10 books read, turn in your bookmark for a prize! Completed bookmarks will be entered to win the grand prize. Earn additional chances for the grand prize by completing additional bookmarks!

DETAILS

- Oct. 16–Dec. 31
- Audience: Grades 7–12

The Norsk Storyteller

"Laugh, Learn, & Connect with the Untold Stories of Scandinavia Featuring Humorist & Historian Chad Filley – The Norsk Storyteller". Chad Filley isn't just a storyteller; he's a time machine to the world voices, giving breath once more to the dreams that built the heartland. This program is sponsored by Glenwood Public Library and Viking Library System, funded in part or in whole with monies from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage fund. No registration required.

DETAILS

- Saturday, Nov. 15, 1:00 p.m.
- Glenwood Public Library
- Audience: Adults





Game Day at the Library

Invite your friends and spend a morning at the library with games and puzzles! A variety of games and puzzles will be provided; participants are welcome to bring their own favorites from home as well! This program is free and open to all – no registration required.

DETAILS

- Tuesday, Dec. 30, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Glenwood Public Library
- Audience: Kids



Winter Reading Program

The adult Winter Reading Program is back again this year! Stop in to pick up a punch card. Readers will get their card punched for each book read and enjoy prizes along the way. After 12 books read, turn in your card for a chance at winning the grand prize!

DETAILS

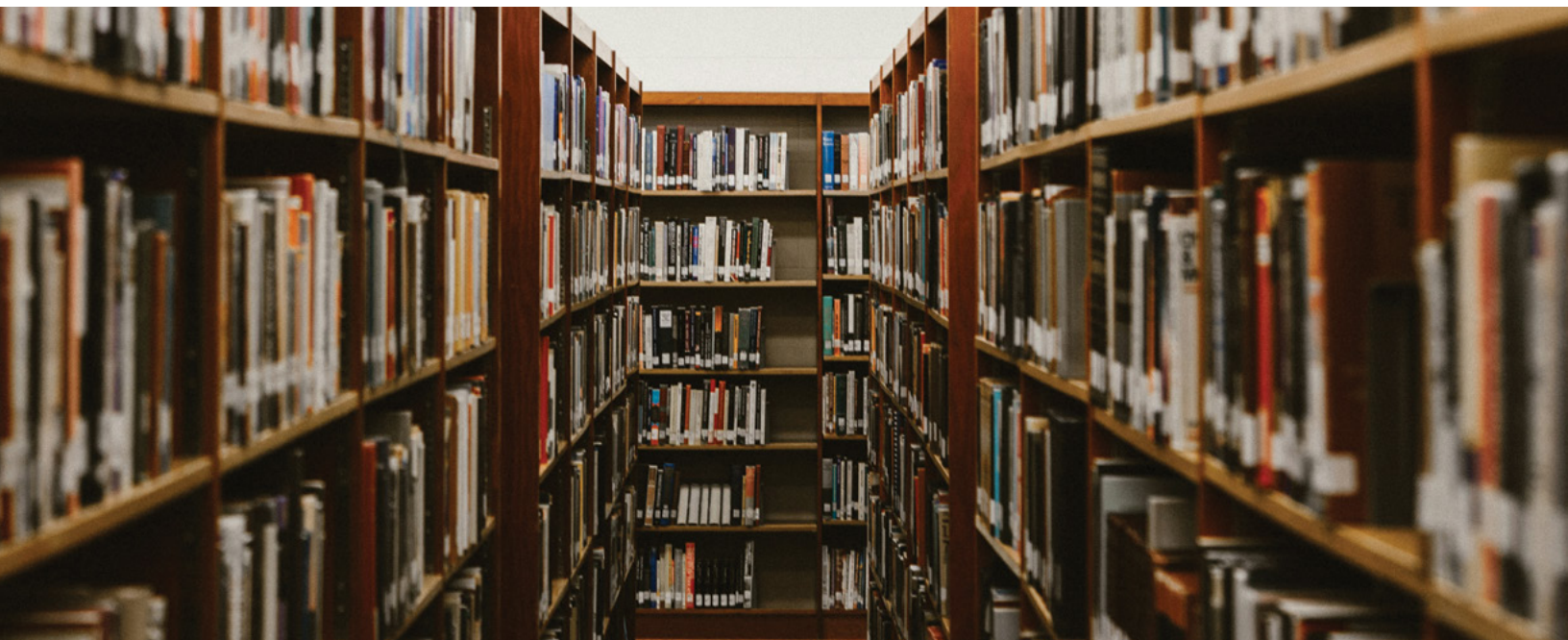
- Jan. 2–Mar. 31
- Audience: Adults

Bingo for Books

Celebrate I Love to Read Month with bingo for books at the Glenwood Public Library. Please register by calling the library at (320) 634-3375.

DETAILS

- Saturday, Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m.
- Glenwood Public Library
- Audience: Grade K–6



Investing In Our Future

Re-Investing. Re-Thinking. Re-Imagining. Re-Purposing.

Minnewaska Area Schools is working to create a stronger, safer, and more innovative learning environment. We are pursuing a bond referendum question on the November special election ballot.

Your vote will determine the **next 25 years** of our school facilities.

Five Key Investment Areas

- **Critical Building Reinvestment:**
HVAC systems and infrastructure
- **Enhanced Security:** Protecting students from modern safety concerns
- **Childcare Addition:** Expanding to serve community needs
- **Learning Space Improvements:**
Supporting personalized education
- **Shared Community Spaces:**
Multi-purpose gymnasium and fitness



Voting Information

EARLY AND ABSENTEE VOTING

Sept. 19 – Nov. 3

Mon. – Fri., 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

MAS District Office, Door #1

(No voting Oct. 16–17)

ELECTION DAY

Nov. 4

7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Pope County Courthouse

This special election is a combined polling place between the MAS District and the Pope County Courthouse, which differs from that past special election.

Visit www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us/bond-vote for more information.





Minnewaska Area Schools Directory

Community Education/Activities	(320) 239-1305	High School	(320) 239-4800
Community Education Director, Angie VanZee	(320) 239-1304	Middle School	(320) 239-1320
Community Education Administrative Assistant, Angie Blair	(320) 239-1305	Elementary School	(320) 634-4567
Activities Director, Phil Johnsrud	(320) 239-5103	W.I.N. Academy	(320) 239-2257
Activities Administrative Assistant, Terri Richards	(320) 239-1314	Food Service	(320) 239-1307
Programs, Facilities & Pool	(320) 239-1305	Adult Basic Ed/GED	(320) 762-3312
Pool Office	(320) 239-1346	Palmer Bus Garage	(320) 634-3272
District Business Office (Superintendent)	(320) 239-4820	Early Childhood Programs, Sue Currens	(320) 239-1406
		Little Lakers Child Care	(320) 239-5213
		Minnewaska PTO, Kristal Wendt	(612) 270-1263
		School Resource Officer, Andrew Pederson	(320) 239-4800 ext. 1213

U.S. Postage Paid
Nonprofit
Permit #104
Presorted STD

Boxholder
P.O. & R.R.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@waskapride + @MinnewaskaAreaCommunityEd



@waskapride



@minnewaska_area_schools

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

ELEMENTARY
409 4th St. SE
Glenwood, MN 56334

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