Minnewaska Area Schools

WINTER 2026-27

Minnewaska Messenger

DISTRICT 2149





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A Letter From Angie VanZee, Community Education Director



Laker Families and Community Members,

As we head into another Minnesota winter, I am excited to share the newest edition of the Minnewaska Messenger with you. This season brings another great lineup of opportunities to learn, stay active, try something new, and connect with others throughout our communities.

Community Education is truly about community. Our programs bring together children, families, adults, local organizations, instructors, volunteers, and community partners. Whether you are joining us for a youth activity, trying a new fitness class, participating in Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes with our youngest learners, attending an enrichment opportunity, or simply looking for a way to connect with others, we hope you find something in these pages that is right for you.

As you look through this winter edition, you will find opportunities for all ages. We continue to work on expanding our programming and bringing new ideas to Minnewaska. Some of our best programs come from people right here in our community who are willing to share a talent, skill, hobby, or passion with others. If there is a class you would like to see—or one you would like to teach—we want to hear from you!

Community Education also extends well beyond classes and activities. Our programs support families throughout the year through early childhood programming, preschool, school-age child care, the Lakes Area Enrichment Center, youth recreation and enrichment, adult learning opportunities, and more.

We are fortunate to have dedicated staff members who make these programs possible each day.

I am especially thankful for the partnerships we continue to build with local organizations, businesses, instructors, coaches, volunteers, and community members. Collaboration allows us to offer more opportunities and helps make Minnewaska Community Education a resource for the entire community.

Our school facilities are community resources, too. From gyms and classrooms to meeting spaces, the auditorium, and the pool, Minnewaska Area Schools has a variety of spaces available for community use. You can find facility rental information and request forms on the Community Education page of the district website.

Most importantly, I encourage you to open the Messenger, explore what is available, and try something new this winter. Maybe it is a class you have always wanted to take, an activity for your child, a chance to get active, or simply an opportunity to meet new people. Learning and connecting with others right here in our own communities feels special.

Thank you for continuing to support Minnewaska Community Education. We are proud to serve our Laker communities and look forward to seeing you at a class, activity, event, or program this winter.

If you have an idea, question, or suggestion, please contact the Community Education office at (320) 239-1305 or me at avanzee@isd2149.org. Your ideas help shape what Community Education can become.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful, safe, and active winter season!

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.

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.

After-School Community Education Transportation

Elementary students registered for a Community Education after-school class or activity held at Minnewaska Area High School can ride **Bus #14** or **Bus #15** from Minnewaska Area Elementary School to the high school.

On the day of the activity, parents and guardians should notify their child's teacher and the elementary school office of the change in their child's after-school plans. Please also make sure your child knows they will be attending a Community Education activity and should ride **Bus #14** or **#15** to the high school.

Pickup Reminder: Please review the class information for the scheduled end time and pickup location. Families are responsible for arranging transportation home and should plan to pick up their child promptly when the activity ends.



Home-School Students Required to File Report

If you are homeschooling, you must file a Non-Public Education Compulsory Report with the District Office at Minnewaska Area Schools. If you did not receive a packet in the mail, please call the District Office at (320) 239-1304.



Minnewaska Area Schools Directory

Community Education/Activities	(320) 239-1305
Community Education Director, Angie VanZee	(320) 239-1304
Activities Director, Phil Johnsrud	(320) 239-5103
Activities Office	(320) 239-1314
Programs, Facilities & Pool	(320) 239-1305
Pool Office	(320) 239-1346
District Business Office (Superintendent)	(320) 239-4820
High School	(320) 239-4800
Middle School	(320) 239-1320
Elementary School	(320) 634-4567
W.I.N. Academy	(320) 239-2257
Food Service	(320) 239-1307
Adult Basic Ed/GED	(320) 762-3312
Palmer Bus Garage	(320) 634-3272
Early Childhood Programs, Sue Currens	(320) 239-1406
Lakes Area Enrichment Center	(320) 239-5213
Minnewaska PTO, Kristal Wendt	(612) 270-1263



JOIN US FOR THE 21ST ANNUAL

Veterans Day Program

Nov. 11, 2026 • 9 a.m.
MAHS Main Gymnasium
Everyone is welcome to attend

PURCHASE A PAVER

Honor a Veteran

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 ⅜ x 3 ⅜ 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



Community Education











How to Register Online

Introducing Arux, your new digital home for Enrichment at Minnewaska Community Education!

Minnewaska Area Schools
District 2149

Arux Guide Access

For more info on account management, adding family members and emergency contacts, scan the QR code or see the **For Community Members** section at

- https://guide.arux.app/docs/for-parents.

You'll access Arux to:

- View and Download Receipts and Tax Statements
- Register for Community Education programs
- List and Update Emergency Contacts
- Manage Payment Methods

Getting Started

To get started using Arux, follow these steps:

1. Scan the QR code or visit: **https://minnewaska.arux.app/**
2. Click **Sign In** to start creating your account and use the link to **Create one now**.
3. Complete the Register a New Account form.
4. Once your account is created, select **Explore Programs** to view available course programming.

Access Arux

arux

YOUTH ENRICHMENT

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. 9, 16, 23
- Time: 2:45–4:15 p.m.
- Cost: $50
- Location: MAES Media Center









Gaming Club

This exciting club, offered in partnership with Pope County 4-H, is a place for youth to come together and connect through gaming. From video games to tabletop games, board games, and more, participants will build connections, make friends, and grow their gaming skills in a fun, welcoming environment. Rolling registration available throughout the session. The 2nd Monday of every month, February through May.

DETAILS

- Dates: Feb. 8, Mar. 8, Apr. 12, and May 10
- Time: 3:30–5 p.m.
- Cost: $20 per participant
- Location: Computer Lab G121
- Grades: 4+
- 20 maximum
- Presented in partnership with Pope County 4-H

Global Connections: Exploring a Mystery Country from Minnewaska

Get ready for an adventure around the world without leaving Minnewaska! Offered in partnership with Pope County 4-H, this program will have participants explore a mystery country and discover its culture, traditions, activities, food, and more. This interactive experience makes learning about the world fun while helping youth discover new places and cultures.

DETAILS

- Dates: Feb. 23
- Time: 3:30–5 p.m.
- Cost: $25 per participant
- Location: MAHS Art Room E#156
- Grades: 3+
- Maximum: 18
- Presented in partnership with Pope County 4-H



Outdoor Activity Mini Camp

This exciting mini camp, offered in partnership with Pope County 4-H, helps youth get ready for the outdoor season here in Minnesota! Participants will learn about fishing, wildlife, complete hands-on crafts, and receive take-home supplies to encourage outdoor exploration and adventure. Held annually in the spring.

DETAILS

- Dates: Mar. 15 & 16
- Time: 3:30–5 p.m.
- Cost: $10
- Location: MAHS Art Room E#168
- Grades: 3–6
- Maximum: 15
- Presented in partnership with Pope County 4-H

Babysitting Clinic (Grades 5+)

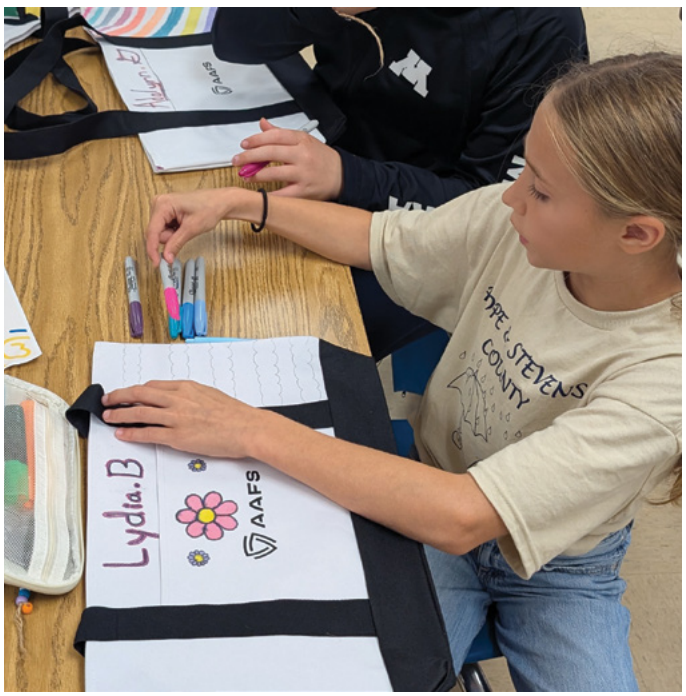
Learn to be a successful babysitter through this 4-H program offered in partnership with Pope County 4-H. Sessions will cover Emergency Prep, Food & Safety, Ages & Stages, and Being a Babysitting Entrepreneur. Held annually in the fall and late winter.

DETAILS

- Dates: Mar. 1, 2, 4 & 5
- Time: 3:30–5 p.m.
- Cost: $30
- Location: MAHS FACS Room #E156
- Maximum: 12
- Presented in partnership with Pope County 4-H







ACT Practice Test

Take the first step toward higher ACT scores! We're offering a community ACT practice test that simulates real testing conditions. This is a stress-free way to experience the ACT, discover where you stand, and create a plan for success. Students will receive their score within two weeks after the test. An optional one-on-one follow-up appointment can be scheduled to receive more detailed information on strengths and areas for improvement. This includes the science section of the test. On test day, bring a number 2 pencil, watch or timing device, permitted calculator, and snack to eat outside the testing room.

DETAILS

- Dates: Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026, MAHS Media Center; Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2027 (non-school day), Lakes Area Chamber Conference Room: 7 First Street NW, Glenwood
- Time: 8 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Grades: 10 - 12
- Cost: $15
- Minimum: 2 students; Maximum: 20 students
- Instructor: Andrea Wildman Hilal, owner of Class 101



In-Person Driver's Education–Classroom Instruction (30 Hours)

Offered through MAS Community Education in partnership with Roadworthy Driver's Education.

For teens ready to begin their journey toward earning a driver's license, the State of Minnesota requires **a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction** before taking the written permit exam. While online options are available, we know that online learning isn't the right fit for every student. That's why we're excited to bring an **in-person classroom experience** to Minnewaska, with a knowledgeable Roadworthy instructor leading every session. Students will benefit from real-time conversation, hands-on learning, and a structured environment built for success.

In addition to classroom instruction, Minnesota also requires **6 hours of Behind-the-Wheel training** with a licensed instructor before a student may take their road test. MAS Community Education and Roadworthy Education is pleased to partner with **Central Lakes Driving School (Alexandria, MN)** to provide this required training for **$350.00.** This will be paid to Central Lakes Driving School

This in-person program offers another great option for students who are ready to get started on the path to earning their driver's license, supported, engaged, and learning in a real classroom.

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION DETAILS

- 30 hours of classroom instruction
- Dates: Mar. 1–5, Mar. 8–11 and Mar. 15 (10 sessions)
- Time: 3:30–6:30 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Room #A115
- Cost: $156
- Minimum: 10 students; Maximum: 30 students

BEHIND-THE-WHEEL TRAINING DETAILS

- 6 hours of behind-the-wheel (BTW) training with a licensed instructor
- Cost: $350

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.

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 DATE

- Tuesday, Feb. 2, 6:30–9 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.

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 DATE

- Tuesday, Feb. 2, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

NEW! Instant Ukulele for Hopelessly Busy People

In just a few hours, you can learn enough about playing the ukulele to give you years of musical enjoyment—and you won't have to take private lessons to do it. This crash course will teach you some basic chords and get you playing along with your favorite songs right away. Fee includes the online book, online recorded follow-up lessons, a recording of the class, and access to optional live periodic question-and-answer sessions at no additional cost. Class is conducted online using Zoom and is partly hands-on instruction and partly lecture/demonstration.

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 DATE

- Thursday, Feb. 4, 6:30–9 p.m.

ART

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, Feb. 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2
- Time: 2:45–4 p.m.
- Cost: $56
- Location: Elementary Art Room
- Instructor: Bryan Draxten
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 20

MAMS Art Club Winter Session (Grades 4–8)

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, Jan. 5, 12, 26; Feb. 2
- Time: 3–4:15 p.m.
- Cost: $56
- Location: HS Art Room E#161
- Instructor: Bryan Draxten
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 20



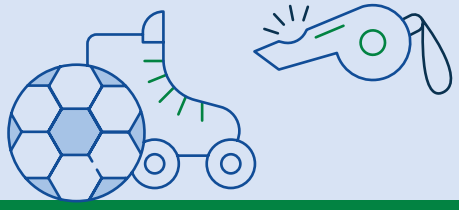


Art & Stories: Create Your Own

This two-part workshop, offered in partnership with Pope County 4-H, gives youth a chance to get creative, feel inspired, and make something special! Participants will develop their creativity and storytelling skills as they write, share stories, and bring their ideas to life through art and creative expression.

DETAILS

- Date: Feb. 2& 4
- Time: 3:30–5 p.m.
- Grades: 5+
- Cost: $30 per participant
- Location: MAHS Art Room E#168
- Maximum: 12



YOUTH RECREATION

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

- Dates: Nov. 14, 21; Dec. 12 & 19
- Location: Minnewaska Area High School Auxiliary Gym
- Time: 9:15 –10 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.

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

DETAILS

- Dates: Nov. 14, 21; Dec. 12 & 19
- Time: 8–9:15 a.m.
- Location: Minnewaska Area High School Main Gym
- Cost: $40 and includes a T-shirt

Youth Girls Traveling Basketball (Grades 3–7)

We invite all girls in Grades 3–7 to join 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. 13
- Cost: $75 (Grade 3), $110 (Grades 4–7)
- Coach: TBD (families will be notified once assigned)
- Tournaments: TBD



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

- Dates: Nov. 12, 14, 21; Dec. 12, 19
- Cost: $40 (includes camp t-shirt)
- Instructors: Minnewaska Boys Basketball Coaching Staff and Players
- Registration Deadline: Saturday, Nov. 7

SCHEDULE

Thursday, Nov. 12

- **Grades K-2:** 6–7 p.m. at MAHS Auxiliary Gym
- **Grades 3–6:** 6–7:15 p.m. at MAHS Main Gym

Saturday, Nov. 14 & 21; Dec. 12 & 19

- **Kindergarten:** 10–10:45 a.m. at MAHS Auxiliary Gym
- **Grades 1–2:** 10:45–11:30 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

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.

YOUTH BASKETBALL REQUIREMENT

All traveling players must also participate in the Youth Skills & Development Basketball. Registration for traveling basketball automatically includes youth skills & development 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 Youth Skills & Development basketball fee
- Coach: TBD (families will be notified once assigned)
- Tournaments: TBD



Laker Youth Wrestling

DETAILS

- Parent Meeting: Monday, Nov. 23, 6:30 p.m. in the MAHS auditorium. Please enter through the District Doors (far left doors) to access the auditorium.
- Cost: $40 per child plus a $40 singlet deposit. (Singlets are paid for online during registration) *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. 29 (t-shirts not guaranteed for late registrants)

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

- Practice Dates: Mondays & Thursdays beginning Monday, Nov. 30 through the end of February. Note: Wrestlers signed up for NYWA, 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.

Team Reach App: Team Reach App will be used to communicate with parents during the wrestling season. This will also be discussed during the parent meeting. Download the APP on Android or iOS. Open app and enter group code “MYWR2026”.

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.

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: Tan Jazz shoes are required but not included in the registration fee. New ones can be ordered on the first day of practice.

DETAILS

- Dates: Jan. 14 – Apr. 15 (No practice on Jan. 28)
- Grades & Times:
  - Grades K – 1: Thursdays, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m.
  - Grades 2 – 3: Thursdays, 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.
  - Grades 4 – 6: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Cafeteria & Central Square
- Cost: $105/dancer (Grades K – 1); $125/dancer (Grades 2 – 3); $185/dancer (Grades 4 – 6)
- Performance Shirt: Included at no cost
- Performance Opportunity: End-of-session show (wear included T-shirt and black shorts with hair in a low slicked-back bun)



Junior Lakers Swim Club – Winter Session (Grades 3 – 6)

Boys and Girls in grades 3 – 6 who have passed level 2 of swimming lessons. This program helps kids learn to swim more effectively and build the stamina to swim in Minnesota's lakes and pools.

What will you learn?
The four competitive strokes are freestyle, backstroke, butterfly, and breaststroke. We will also teach competitive turns, starts, an introduction 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

- Mondays and Thursdays, Jan. 11 – Feb. 18 (10 sessions); No practice on Jan. 18 or Feb. 15
- Time: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Tentative Swim Meet: Feb. 8, 4:15 – 4:45 pm; All are welcome to watch!
- Cost: $50 per participant
- Registration Deadline: Jan. 7
- Maximum number of swimmers: 45
- Coaches: Katie Heidelberger & Linda Hoffmann and HS swimmers; Contact: minnewaskalakerswim@gmail.com

ADULT ENRICHMENT



Snowman Paint Night

Get creative and celebrate the season with a fun evening of painting! Snowmen are always fun to paint, and participants will be guided step-by-step through the painting process, using simple brush techniques to create a beautiful winter work of art to take home. No painting experience is necessary, making this a great opportunity for both beginners and experienced painters. Come enjoy a relaxing evening, have some fun, and leave with your very own snowman masterpiece!

DETAILS

- Date: Monday, Nov. 16
- Time: 6–8 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Art Room #E161
- Fee: $35 per person. All painting supplies are included in the registration fee.
- Instructor: Danielle Lien
- Registration Deadline: Friday, Nov. 13
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 25

Porch Pots

Get festive this holiday season with Uptown Florist! In this hands-on workshop, you'll choose to design a beautiful evergreen 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, Nov. 21
- Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Cost: $70
- Audience: Adults and older teens
- Location: MAHS Industrial Arts Room G144
- Instructor: Alison Radil, Uptown Florist
- Registration Deadline: Nov. 20
- Minimum: 10; Maximum: 20

Snowflake Barn Quilt Paint Night

Create a stunning winter snowflake barn quilt to display in your home or give as a handmade gift! Participants will receive a 12" x 12" wooden board with a pre-drawn quilt pattern and be guided step-by-step through the painting process. No painting experience is necessary. Whether you are an experienced painter or trying something new, come enjoy a fun and relaxing evening of creativity while making a beautiful winter decoration to take home!

DETAILS

- Date: Monday, Dec. 7
- Time: 6–8 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Art Room #E161
- Fee: $35 per person. All painting supplies are included in the registration fee.
- Instructor: Danielle Lien
- Registration Deadline: Friday, Dec. 4
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 25



Winter Artificial Planter Arrangement Class with Uptown Florist

Minnewaska Community Education is partnering with Uptown Florist for another creative morning, this time with a winter twist! Participants will design and assemble their own beautiful winter-themed artificial arrangement in a planter box, perfect for adding a seasonal touch to their home or office. With guidance from a professional florist, participants will create a custom arrangement featuring winter-inspired greenery, florals, and decorative accents. Best of all, this artificial arrangement requires no watering or maintenance, so you can enjoy it throughout the winter season and bring it out again for years to come.

DETAILS

- Date: Saturday, Dec. 5
- Time: 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Industrial Arts Room
- Cost: $50 per person
- Instructor: Uptown Florist
- Registration Deadline: Tuesday, Dec. 1
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 20

All supplies are included. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Valentine Barn Quilt Paint Night

Create a beautiful Valentine heart barn quilt to display in your home or give as a handmade gift! Participants will receive a 12" x 12" wooden board with a pre-drawn quilt pattern and be guided step-by-step through the painting process. No painting experience is necessary. Come enjoy a fun and relaxing evening of creativity while making a festive Valentine decoration to take home!

DETAILS

- Date: Monday, Jan. 25
- Time: 6–8 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Art Room #E161
- Fee: $35 per person. All painting supplies are included in the registration fee.
- Instructor: Danielle Lien
- Registration Deadline: Friday, Jan. 22
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 25

Snowy Pine Glow Paint Night

Create a beautiful winter scene featuring snowy pine trees set against the stunning glow of the northern lights! Participants will be guided step-by-step through the painting process, using simple brush techniques to create their own unique work of art to take home. No painting experience is necessary. Come enjoy a fun and relaxing evening of creativity while painting a colorful winter scene!

DETAILS

- Date: Friday, Feb. 19
- Time: 6–8 p.m.
- Location: MAHS Art Room #E161
- Fee: $35 per person. All painting supplies are included in the registration fee.
- Instructor: Danielle Lien
- Registration Deadline: Wednesday, Feb. 17
- Minimum: 5; Maximum: 25

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.**

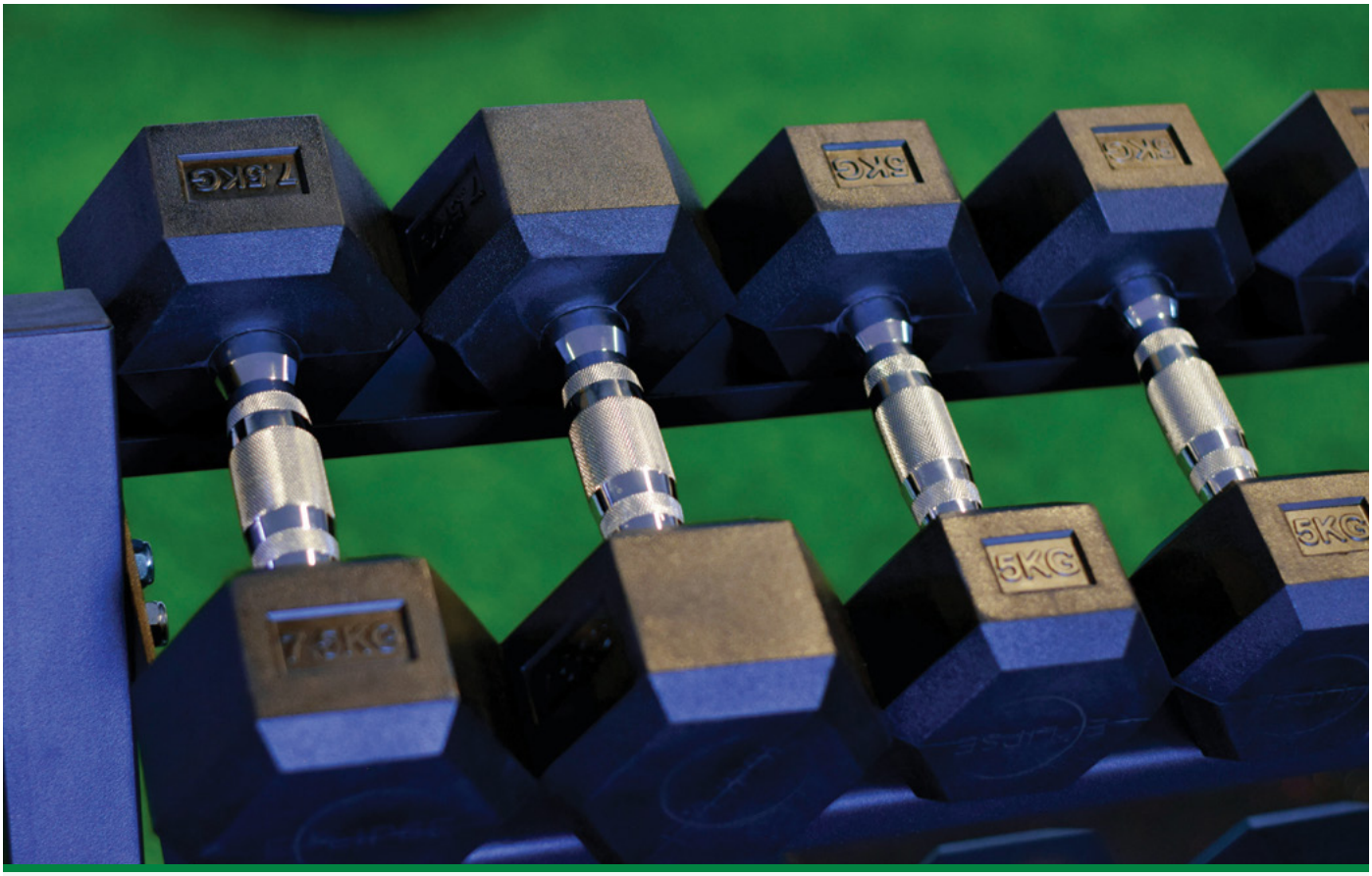
Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate eligible for a 10% auto insurance discount.

CLASS DATES

- Dates: Dec. 2, Jan. 13, Feb. 17, Mar. 17, Apr. 21, or May 26
- Time: 3–7 p.m.

DETAILS

- Cost: $27
- Location: MAHS Media Center
- Instructor: Minnesota Highway Safety and Research Center
- Registration: Call (320) 239-1305



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!

What to Expect:

- 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; 7–8:05 p.m. (times are flexible on Sundays)
- Cost: $150 for the full 8-week session.
- Location: MAHS Weight Room
- Sessions: Participants may register for one or both sessions. Separate registration is required for each session.
- **Winter Session 1:** Dec. 13, 2026–Feb. 3, 2027
- **Winter Session 2:** Feb. 7–Apr. 5, 2027 (no class Feb. 14 & 15)
- What's Included: 30 minutes of Strength Training, 25 minute of High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT), 10 minutes of Core/Abs



Swing Into Something New – East Coast Swing

Grab a partner and get ready to swing! Learn the basics of East Coast Swing in this fun, upbeat class designed for beginners. You'll learn simple steps, turns, and patterns that you can take straight to the dance floor. No previous dance experience is required! Just come ready to have fun and learn something new! Choose the session that works best for you. Each session includes three one-hour classes.

DETAILS

- Session 1: Tuesdays, Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 9
- Session 2: Tuesdays, Feb. 23, Mar. 2 & 9
- Time: 7–8 p.m.
- Cost: $62 per couple, per session
- Location: MAES Gymnasium
- Minimum: 6 couples per session
- Instructors: Nikki & Eric Randleman

Regional Online Career Collaborative Courses (ROCC)

Online career and college-focused courses offered for Accuplacer, Pre-CNA, TEAS nursing exam prep, driver's license exam prep, Para-Professional training/certification, and more through our Regional Online Career Collaborative. Course information can be found on the ROCC Website at https://sites.google.com/nwservice.org/rocc/home.

DETAILS

- Free career-oriented online courses
- Enrollment in ABE is required for all ROCC courses
- Please contact ABE at (320) 762-3312 for more information

Free Adult Basic Education Classes

Locations in Alexandria, Melrose, Morris, Sauk Centre

Adult Basic Education Opportunities

Looking to earn your GED, improve your English, strengthen your reading or math skills, or prepare for college or a new career? Alexandria Adult Basic Education (ABE) provides FREE educational opportunities for adults in our area.

ABE can help with GED preparation, English language learning, basic academic skills, college and career preparation, and more.

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 Community Ed at Central Square

Looking for a creative outlet this winter? Minnewaska Community Education is offering Open Art Studio and Open Pottery Studio at Central Square. These relaxed, self-directed studio sessions give you the opportunity to create, explore, and work at your own pace in a welcoming environment. Space is limited, and registration is required. Sign up for one session or come back throughout the season and make creativity part of your winter!

Open Art Studio

Open Art Studio is open to all skill levels. Bring a project you are already working on or explore available art materials and simple guided activities with instructor Danielle Lien.

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Nov. 5, 2026, Feb. 4, 2027

DETAILS

- 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square, Suite 209
- Cost: Free
- Instructor: Danielle Lien
- Class maximum: 12

Open Pottery Studio

Open Pottery Studio is designed for participants with basic pottery experience who would like time and space to practice hand-building, glazing, or work on personal projects. Instructor Shauna Loxtercamp will be available for support as needed. Clay and tools are provided, and completed projects will be fired and available for pick-up at a later date.

CLASS DATES (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)

- Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 2026; Feb. 18, 2027

DETAILS

- 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square, Suite 207
- Cost: Free for each participant's first session, with supplies included. A $5 supply fee applies to each additional pottery session attended.
- Instructor: Shauna Loxtercamp
- Class maximum: 12

Holiday Ornament Glazing

Celebrate the holiday season by creating your own set of custom ceramic ornaments! In this festive, beginner-friendly workshop, participants will start with pre-made, bisque-fired clay ornaments and jump right into decorating. With guidance from the instructor, participants will use brush-on glazes, seasonal colors, and simple design techniques to create personalized ornaments perfect for hanging on the tree or giving as handmade gifts. After class, ornaments will be fired in the studio kiln to create a beautiful, durable finish and will be available for pick-up at a later date. No pottery experience is necessary, and all supplies are included.

DETAILS

- Tuesday, Nov. 10
- 6–7:30 p.m.
- Age: Ages 12 and up; younger children are welcome, but participants under age 12 must have an adult present throughout the class
- Location: Central Square, Suite 207
- Cost: $25 per person
- Instructor: Shauna Loxtercamp
- Class maximum: 12



Adult Holiday Slab-Building Workshop: Handmade Ceramic Décor

Create your own one-of-a-kind ceramic holiday decorations in this two-session, hands-on workshop! This workshop is beginner-friendly, and no previous pottery experience is necessary. All supplies and kiln firings are included.

During the first session, participants will use clay slabs and project templates to cut, shape, and assemble dimensional holiday pieces such as seasonal houses, trees, or wall hangings. Add your own personality with carved textures, patterns, and decorative cut-outs. Your pieces will then dry and receive their first kiln firing.

Return for the second session to bring your creations to life with colorful brush-on glazes. After glazing, each piece will receive a final kiln firing, resulting in beautiful, durable ceramic holiday décor you can enjoy for years to come.

CLASS DATES

- Session 1: Nov. 17
- Session 2: Dec. 1

DETAILS

- 6–8 p.m.
- Location: Central Square, Suite 207
- Cost: $50 per person
- Instructor: Shauna Loxtercamp
- Class maximum: 12
- Registration includes both sessions. Participants should plan to attend both dates to complete their project.



WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP: JUNE 1–7, 2027



Experience the history, culture, and excitement of our nation's capital on this exciting 6-night trip to Washington, D.C.! This tour is designed with a more relaxed pace, allowing participants plenty of free time to explore, enjoy local restaurants, shop, or simply take in the sights at their own pace.

Participants will stay in historic Alexandria, Virginia, just steps away from a Metro station and the free King Street trolley. The area offers beautiful views of the Potomac River along with countless restaurants, shops, and attractions.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Evening Alexandria tour with a costumed guide
- National Mall tour
- National Archives
- Ford's Theatre
- Capitol Building tour
- Library of Congress
- Supreme Court
- Holocaust Memorial Museum
- Smithsonian Museums with free time to explore
- Mount Vernon tour and Potomac River cruise
- Pentagon 9/11 Memorial
- Arlington National Cemetery
- Washington National Cathedral

DETAILS

- Cost: $2,100 per person
- Registration Deadline: December 14, 2026
- The trip includes roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations, select admissions, and guided tours.
- This trip is intentionally planned with a smaller group size to provide a more enjoyable and flexible travel experience. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged.
- Tentative flight plans include departure from Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) with arrival in the Washington, D.C. area. Final travel details and itinerary information will be provided closer to departure.
- Come explore the landmarks, history, and energy of Washington, D.C. with us in June 2027!

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. 22
  3:30–5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

- Dec. 6, 20
  3:30–5:30 p.m.

JANUARY

- Jan. 10, 24
  3:30–5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 7, 28
  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.

Visit our facility rental page for more details and to submit your request.

FACILITY RENTAL REQUEST

Lap Swimming – Tuesday Mornings

Start your Tuesday with an early morning swim! Lap swimming will be available for adults looking to get in some exercise before starting their day.

- Dates: Tuesdays, Dec. 1–Feb. 23
- Time: 6–7:15 a.m.
- Where: Minnewaska Area High School Pool
- No Lap Swimming: Dec. 29 or Jan. 19



Little Lakers Preschool & ECFE

Sue Currens, Early Childhood Coordinator



A Message From the Early Childhood Coordinator

We're off to a wonderful start here at Minnewaska Early Childhood. Our Little Lakers Preschool classes and fall ECFE classes are up and running. It's such a joy seeing our little ones grow, learn, and make new friends.

As we look ahead, be sure to take a peek at our winter offerings included in this newsletter. We have some fun family activities planned that we can't wait to share with you!

Thank you for being part of our Early Childhood community, and Happy Holidays!

Little Laker Preschool

Registration for the 2026-27 school year is officially closed — thank you to all the families who have joined us.

Looking ahead: Registration for 2027-28 opens on March 8, 2027.

And exciting news — we're planning new wrap-around care options for 4-year-olds! Stay tuned for more details.





2027-2028 Preschool Registration

OPENS MAR. 8, 2027

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. Stay tuned for more information!

Save the Date

2027–2028 KINDERGARTEN CLASS

Kickoff to Kindergarten is set for March 1 and 2, 2027.



Early Childhood Screening

Early Childhood Screening is a free and simple check to ensure your child is growing, learning, and developing as expected. It's best completed when your child is between 3 and 4 years old, allowing time for early support or interventions if any concerns are identified.

During your appointment, a trained professional will screen your child's:

- Vision and hearing
- Thinking and language skills
- Motor development

In addition, your child's health history and immunizations will be reviewed.

Early Childhood Screening is required for enrollment in preschool and/or kindergarten in Minnesota.

ECFE OFFERINGS AND REGISTRATION

REGISTER FOR A SCREENING

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)

Minnewaska Schools provides Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) services for children from **birth to age five** who meet Minnesota eligibility criteria for special education.

- **Children ages 0–3** who qualify, receive services in their home or daycare setting in our Early Intervention Program.
- **Children ages 3–5** may receive special education services in a Little Lakers Preschool classroom, through ECFE, or in a daycare setting, depending on individual needs.

To learn more, visit https://helpmegrowmn.org/HMG/index.htm. There, you'll find detailed information and a referral form that, once submitted, will be directed to your local school district if you wish to refer a child for evaluation.

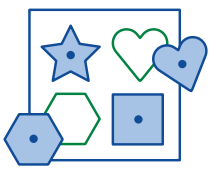
If you have any concerns about your child's development, you're also encouraged to speak with your child's preschool teacher or contact the school directly. Stephanie Swalla, ECSE teacher, sswalla@isd2149.org.











Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all Little Lakers happenings, upcoming events, and important program announcements! #MinnewaskaLittleLakers

EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY EDUCATION

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!

DETAILS

- Date: Monday, Dec. 14
- Time: 5–6:30 p.m.
- Location: MAES Cafeteria & Gym
- Fee: $15/family
- Registration closes: Dec. 2
- Instructor: Sue Currens, Child Educator

Move, Mingle & Play – Little Lakers Open Gym

For children ages birth to age 7 and their caregivers

Join us for a fun-filled opportunity to explore, play, and connect!

- Climb, run, jump, and play in a safe, welcoming space designed for young children.
- Meet other families and make new friends.
- Encourage active play, build motor skills, and create lasting memories together.

Bring your energy, curiosity, and sense of adventure! Whether your little one is a crawler, toddler, or preschooler, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

DETAILS

- Dates: Saturdays, Jan. 9, 23; Feb. 6, 20; Mar. 6, 20
- Time: 10–11:30 a.m.
- Location: Minnewaska Area Elementary School
- FREE - No Registration is needed.
- Children must be supervised by an adult at all times.



ECFE Family Movie Night

For children ages 3-7.
Older or younger siblings are welcome.

Grab your blankets, bring the kiddos, and join Little Lakers ECFE for a Family Movie Night! Parents must attend and supervise their children.

- **Movie title TBD**
- Popcorn & beverages for sale
- Comfy clothes & cozy blankets welcome
- Come ready to laugh, snuggle, and make some special memories together!

DETAILS

- Dates: Saturday, Feb. 6
- Time: 5:30–7:30 p.m.; Movie begins at 6 p.m.
- Location: Minnewaska Area Elementary School
- Event is free. Concessions will be available for a small fee.
- Registration closes Jan. 29. Please register to help us with our planning!

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.

DETAILS

- Ages: 0–20 months
- 6 Sessions
- Dates: Mondays, Jan. 25; Feb. 1, 8, 22; Mar. 1, 8
- Time: 10:30–11:30 a.m.
- Location: MAES Room 111
- Fee: Sliding Fee Scale, Sibling care is available for an additional fee of $10 per child for the 6 weeks.
- Class limit: 10
- Registration closes: Jan. 13
- Instructor: Sue Currens, Child Educator

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

This multi-age class for children ages 20 mos and up 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.

DETAILS

- Ages: 21 months–5 years (not in Kindergarten)
- 7 Sessions
- Dates: Tuesdays, Jan. 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2, 9
- Time: 10–11:30 a.m.
- Location: MAES Room 111
- Fee: Sliding Fee Scale, Sibling care is available for an additional fee of $10 per child for the 7 weeks.
- Class limit: 12
- Registration closes: Jan. 13
- Instructors: Sue Currens, Child Educator; Stephanie Thoen, Parent Educator

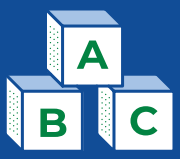


ECFE Class Fees

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	Cost per child for entire session
Under $20,000	$5
$20,000–$35,000	$25
$36,000–$50,000	$40
$50,000–$75,000	$45
Above $75,000	$50



How Do I Register?

1. www.minnewaska.k12.mn.us
2. Click Community Education Tab
3. Click Early Childhood Programs
4. Click View Details to choose the class you prefer
5. Select a class and register!

If you have any questions regarding the online registration process, contact the Community Education office at (320) 239-1305.

Minnewaska ECFE and Little Lakers Preschool

Located in the south wing of the Minnewaska Area Elementary School located at 409 4th Street SE, Glenwood MN 56334

All ECFE classes will have a designated registration closing date to allow staff adequate time to prepare materials, finalize plans, and ensure a high-quality experience for participating families.

Lakes Area Enrichment Center

Sarah Traphagen, Coordinator



Big News, Big Building, Big Future!



The Pope County Early Childhood Hub is officially under construction!

That's right — trees are removed, shovels are in the ground, and walls will go up right next to the elementary school (southwest side, near the entrance to the parking lot). This isn't just a building; it's the future home of 76 lucky little learners, with:

- Two infant classrooms
- One toddler classroom
- One combo toddler/preschool classroom
- One preschool-age classroom
- A large motor room where kiddos can run, jump, and wiggle out all that energy indoors



Aiming for the Stars

We're working hard toward a 4-Star Parent Aware Rating through Child Care Aware — the highest quality rating an early childhood program can earn in Minnesota! When we say we want the best for your kids, we mean it.

Ready to Join the Fun?

Give us a call for a tour at (320) 239-5213, ask about current openings, or hop on our waitlist — we'd love to show you around and introduce you to our amazing team.

A Huge Thank You

None of this happens without our incredible school district and community partners. Lakes Area Enrichment Center is beyond grateful for everyone helping make this new building a reality. Here's to growing together!

Rates

Infants (6 weeks–16 months)

- Full Time: $240/week

Toddlers (16–33 months)

- Full Time: $214/week
- Part Time (3 Days): $133/week

Preschool (33 months until fully potty trained)

- Full Time: $204/week
- Part Time (3 Days): $123/week

Preschool (Fully potty trained) to Kindergarten

- Full Time: $194/week
- Part Time (3 Days): $117/week

Drop-In Care

- $50/day

Questions? Contact Sarah Traphagen at (320) 239-5213 or straphagen@isd2149.org.







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

Audrey Frey, School-Age Child Care Director



School-Age Child Care Available

Looking for quality child care before school, after school or a non-school day? Minnewaska offers convenient, affordable child care options for students in all-day preschool through 6th grade. All programs are located at Minnewaska Area Elementary School. Busing is provided for students in 4th-6th grade.

Our programs provide a safe, welcoming environment with caring, professional staff. Children enjoy a balance of structured and unstructured activities, including outdoor play, gym time, creative learning opportunities, and experiences that support social and emotional growth.

Non-School Day Child Care Information

Non-School Day child care is available for students in all-day preschool through 6th grade, pending staffing availability and enrollment. The program includes snacks and planned activities; however, students must bring their own lunch.

Registration for Non-School Day care closes two weeks prior to the scheduled non-school day(s). Enrollment numbers and staffing availability will determine whether care can be offered. Families will be notified at least two weeks in advance if a Non-School Day program must be canceled due to low enrollment or staffing shortages.

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 register at least 24 hours in advance. We look forward to providing a safe, engaging, and enriching experience for your child throughout the school year!

For more information on the Before School Program, After School Program, or Non-School Day Child Care, please email Audrey Frey, School-Age Child Care Director, at afrey@isd2149.org.

Hours & Cost

Before School Program (BSP)

- 6:30–8 a.m.
- $6.50 per day

Afternoon Program (ASP)

- 2:45–6 p.m.
- $9 per day

Non-School Day (NSD) Care

- 7:30 a.m.–6 p.m.
- $35 per day

Non-School Dates Child Care May Be Offered

- November 6
- December 28, 29, 30, 31
- January 18, 19
- February 12
- March 12, 29
- April 16







Music Department Performances

All performances are in the Minnewaska Area High School Auditorium

Holiday Concerts

Band Concert (9–12)
- Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Band Concert (7–8)
- Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Kindergarten Concert
- Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.

1st Grade Concert
- Dec. 3 at 7 p.m.

4th Grade Concert
- Dec. 8 at 5:30 p.m.

5th Grade Concert
- Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

6th Grade Concert
- Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Choir Concert (7–12)
- Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

2nd Grade Concert
- Dec. 15 at 6 p.m.

3rd Grade Concert
- Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.

Band Concert (5–6)
- Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Snow Day Make-Up Date
- Dec. 21

Band Concert (9–12)
- Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

MSHSL 9-12 Large Group Band Contest
- Feb. 24, Time TBD (12–6 p.m.), Morris HS

MSHSL Large Group Choir Contest
- Mar. 3, Minnewaska

Spring Concerts

MSHSL Band Solo/Ensemble
- Apr. 14, 12–6 p.m., Morris HS

Pop's Concert
- Apr. 18 at 7 p.m.

MSHSL Solo/Ensemble Choir Contest
- Apr. 21, Minnewaska

Band Concert (7–8)
- Apr. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Band Concert (5–6)
- Apr. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Music Banquet
- May 2 at 6 p.m.

1st Grade Concert
- May 4 at 6 p.m.

2nd Grade Concert
- May 4 at 7 p.m.

3rd Grade Concert
- May 6 at 6 p.m.

4th Grade Concert
- May 6 at 7 p.m.

Band Concert (9–12)
- May 10 at 7:30 p.m.

5th Grade Concert
- May 11 at 6 p.m.

6th Grade Concert
- May 11 at 7 p.m.

Choir Concert (9–12)
- May 16 at 2 p.m.

Choir Concert (7–8)
- May 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Graduation (Concert Band & Choir Only)
- May 28.



THE WIZARD OF OZ
By L. Frank Baum

With Music and Lyrics by
Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

Background Music by
Herbert Stothart

Dance and Vocal Arrangements
by Peter Howard

Orchestration by Larry Wilcox

Adapted by John Kane for the
Royal Shakespeare Company

Based upon the Classic Motion
Picture owned by Turner
Entertainment Co. and distributed
in all media by Warner Bros.

Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 8 at 2 p.m.

K-6 Performance: Nov. 4 at 9 a.m.

Tickets

$10 Adults

$5 Students

Tickets available at the door

MAS Auditorium • Doors open 30 minutes prior to performance

Minnewaska Area Schools Angel Account

Helping Laker Students in Times of Need

The Minnewaska Area Schools Angel Account was established in 2020 to provide assistance to students and families experiencing financial hardship. Funding for the Angel Account comes in part through the district's lease agreements for two cell towers located on district property, providing approximately **$10,000 annually** to support students in need. In addition, Eagle Bank generously contributes to the Angel Account through its Laker Debit Card program. We are incredibly grateful for these partnerships and their continued investment in our students.

How the Angel Account Helps

The Angel Account provides financial assistance for essential student needs, including:

- Food and meals
- Personal hygiene items
- Activity fees and participation costs
- Clothing or necessities following emergencies, such as a house fire or other unexpected hardship

Any Minnewaska Area Schools staff member or family of a MAS student may request assistance through the Angel Account.

How You Can Help

Community members, businesses, and organizations are invited to support the Angel Account and make a meaningful difference in the lives of Laker students.

Those interested in contributing can:

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

Angel Account

Questions or Need Assistance?

For more information about the Angel Account or to inquire about available support, please contact your building principal, school counselor, school social worker, or the Superintendent's Office.





Investing in Our Students. Strengthening Our Community.

The Minnewaska Laker Foundation

The Minnewaska Laker Foundation is proud to support students and programs throughout Minnewaska Area Schools. Through the generosity of alumni, families, businesses, and community members, the Foundation helps provide opportunities that enhance the educational experience for students from PreK through grade 12.

Your Support Makes a Difference

Over the past year, Foundation support has helped provide student scholarships, technology for hands-on learning in Career and Technical Education programs, music and fine arts equipment, and other important resources and special projects throughout Minnewaska Area Schools. Every contribution helps create opportunities for students to explore, create, learn, and succeed.

GivingTuesday • December 1, 2026

This holiday season, consider making a difference right here in our community by supporting the Minnewaska Laker Foundation on GivingTuesday, December 1.

GivingTuesday is a worldwide day of generosity that encourages people to give back to organizations and causes that are important to them. A gift to the Minnewaska Laker Foundation is an investment directly in Minnewaska students and their future.

Whether you give on GivingTuesday, make a year-end contribution, or choose to support the Foundation at another time, every gift—regardless of size—makes a difference.

Donations help the Foundation continue investing in:

- Academics
- Fine Arts
- Athletics
- Scholarships
- Career & Technical Education
- Special Projects
- Student Opportunities

Gifts may also be directed to the Foundation's sustaining endowment fund, helping provide meaningful opportunities for Minnewaska students for generations to come.

Looking Ahead to 2027

We are excited for another year of opportunities to bring our Laker community together while supporting Minnewaska students. Watch for information about these upcoming Foundation events:

- Laker Classic Golf Tournament
- Taste on the Lake
- Minnewaska Area Schools Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet

These events are an important part of the Foundation's fundraising efforts, but the continued generosity of individuals, families, alumni, and businesses is equally important to our success.

Be Part of the Laker Legacy

Whether you are a Minnewaska graduate, parent, grandparent, local business owner, community member, or simply someone who believes in creating opportunities for young people, you can make an impact. Your generosity today helps provide opportunities for the students of Minnewaska Area Schools tomorrow.

Make a Gift. Learn More. Get Involved.

Visit the Minnewaska Laker Foundation page on the Minnewaska Area Schools website or scan the QR code below.

Thank you for believing in our students and investing in the future of our Laker community!

MINNEWASKA
LAKER FOUNDATION

DONATE

Lakeside DANCE CLUB

2026/2027

Ballroom Dancing

Sundays 3-6 PM | Lessons @ 2 PM
Lakeside Ballroom - Glenwood, MN

2026

June 14 - Velvet Brass
July 19 - Katy's Swing Band
August 16 - O'Hagan Combo
September 20 - Sax Appeal Power
October 18 - Julie Lee
November 15 - Velvet Brass

2027

January 17 - TBD
February 21 - TBD
March 21 - TBD
April 18 - TBD

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

Join the Club!

Season Passes:
$150/ Couple (Good for one year from purchase date)
$75/ Individual (Good for one year from purchase date)
Daily Pass:
$15 / 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

Project: Constellation Scandinavian Music Duo

Project: Constellation is a violin/guitar husband and wife duo out of Grand Forks, North Dakota. Half the band is authentically Scandinavian since Santiago grew up in Sweden. Project: Constellation's Scandinavian music contribution picks up where most people's knowledge of the Swedish/Norwegian languages and culture seems to have left off, 1890 – today. Join us for a morning of Scandinavian music!

DETAILS

- Nov. 7, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Audience: All ages

Royal Tales & Tiaras

Join us at the library each month for Royal Tales & Tiaras with the Waterama Royalty! This event will feature stories, activities and crafts! Stay tuned for additional dates to be announced!

DETAILS

- Saturday, Nov. 14, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 5, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
- Audience: Elementary age children

Ceramic Mug Painting

Sign up to paint your own ceramic mug. There is no cost for this class, but registration is required by calling the library (320-634-3375).



DETAILS

- Saturday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Audience: Adults

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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