

GREENVALE PARK ELEMENTARY

October 2017 Gazette

Sam Richardson,
Principal
507.645.3500

Attendance Line
507.645.3506

October Calendar:

12 - Hearing & Vision
Rescreening
12 - 6-8pm PTO meeting
17 - 5:30-7:30pm Family
Science Night
19 - No School, Ed MN
20 - No School, Ed MN
24 - Picture Retake Day
26 - Read-A-Thon all-day
26 - 5:30-7:30pm Read-a-
Thon Celebration at GVP
31 - Dress Like Characters
from a Book Day

Greetings Families,

Off to a Great Start

The school year is off to a great start and the students are settling into the routines in their classrooms. We have many adults supporting our students from teachers, support staff, specialists and excellent volunteers from the colleges and community. Classrooms are continuing to work on developing a strong sense of community.

New activities are beginning including after school classes, Community School dinners, music groups and Student Council. All of these efforts go to support developing students to reach their full potential as successful friends and learners.



Birthday Policy

This fall brings a new District-wide policy in the way birthdays are celebrated at school, for the benefit of students' health and wellness. Students will no longer be allowed to bring food or small gifts such as pencils and stickers to share with other students. Birthdays will continue to be fun events for students, and classroom teachers will recognize all children in special ways on their special day. The reason for this change is to comply with our District's federally mandated wellness policy on making healthy choices. The change also addresses increasing concerns about students affected by food allergies and childhood obesity. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephany Stromme, Director of Child Nutrition, at 507.645.3432 or sstromme@northfieldschools.org

School Safety Practices

Safety at school is our top priority. Each year, schools complete mandated safety drills to prepare students and staff in the event of an emergency. This year, Greenvale Park and all Northfield Schools will complete five fire drills, five lockdown drills and one severe weather drill. Teachers do an amazing job helping students feel safe during these drills. Our goal is to help students feel confident in what is expected during a drill so they feel safe at schools.

New Staff at Greenvale Park

This year we welcome a number of new staff to Greenvale Park: Renee (Ren) Kurtz, art teacher; Paul Fried and Peggy Krasin, long-term subs for Angela Eliason, music teacher; Bruce McWilliams, long-term sub for Stefanie Bothun, band director; Lynsi Sherry, psychologist; Joy Amunrud, social worker; Whitney Sannes, speech; Caitlin Bushey, Resource Room; Deb Thomforde, reading support; Ilana Forsgren, Child Nutrition; Brad Skapyak, evening custodian; Savannah Stuckmayer, Community School co-coordinator.

Second Step Program



The Second Step Social, Emotional Learning curriculum is being implemented this year in classrooms. Students receive a short lesson each week with follow up lessons. The activities provide students with clear understanding of the different skills that support friendship and kindness including: listening skills, empathy and self-talk. Parents will see home activities arriving in backpacks. We encourage you to reinforce the lessons at school by completing these activities at home. There are great tips and ways to practice these skills to be more successful at school.



(Mr. Richardson's letter continued from page 1)

New Website

As you may have noticed, Northfield Public Schools refreshed its website over the summer. We hope you have had time to view the refreshed site; please contact us if you have any questions or difficulty locating information.

We want to highlight some important features of the site:

- On the homepage, there are buttons for quick access to frequently used items such as reporting an absence, payments, registering for activities, Schoology and Family Access.
- A referendum tab containing information regarding the November 7th levy and bond referendum is located in the upper right corner of the Home page.
- By selecting the español button (located in the upper right of the Home page), the entire site can be translated into Spanish.
- By selecting the español button you can also see a list of Spanish speaking staff and their contact information.



Referendum



On November 7, 2017, Northfield Public Schools are asking voters to consider two important ballot questions. The first question will ask voters to revoke the current operating levy and replace it with an increased operating levy for 10 years that would be adjusted for inflation. The operating levy is essential in ensuring our current programming is sustainable, given the chronic underfunding of Minnesota schools by the Legislature.

The second question, contingent upon the first question passing, will ask voters to authorize the District to sell \$109 million in bonds (paid back over 25 years) to finance construction of a new elementary school, at the same location as the current Greenvale Park Elementary, and repurposing that building as an early childhood center; constructing a new high school on the current high school property and demolishing the existing high school; and modest renovations or additions at Bridgewater Elementary, Sibley Elementary and Longfellow School.

It is important that parents and community members learn about the election and vote on November 7th. You can find more information, including a video presentation and an interactive tax impact calculator, on our website at <https://northfieldschools.org/referendum>

There will be a referendum presentation on October 16th at 7pm in the Northfield High School Auditorium. There will also be tours of the high school on Friday, October 13th at 5:45pm (before the Varsity football game), on Monday, October 16th at 5:45pm before the referendum presentation, and on Saturday, October 28th at 10am. Tours will meet in the lower cafeteria.

Read-a-thon KickOff

As their main fundraiser this year, the PTO will be holding a Read-a-Thon. Please see information on this event from Rebecca Stoufis on page 4.



Saludos padres y madres:

Un gran comienzo

El año escolar ha tenido un gran comienzo y los estudiantes se están acomodando en las rutinas en sus salones de clases. Tenemos muchos adultos apoyando a nuestros estudiantes desde maestras y maestros, personal de apoyo, especialistas y excelentes voluntarios de las universidades y la comunidad. Los salones de clases continúan trabajando para desarrollar un fuerte sentido de comunidad. Nuevas actividades están comenzando incluyendo clases después de la escuela, cenas escolares en la escuela comunitaria, grupos musicales y el Consejo Estudiantil. Todos estos esfuerzos van a apoyar a los estudiantes en su desarrollo para que alcancen todo su potencial como amigos y estudiantes con éxito.

(Mr. Richardson's letter continued on page 3)

(Mr. Richardson's letter continued from page 2)

Normas para los cumpleaños

En este otoño se inicia una nueva política del Distrito escolar en la forma en que se celebran los cumpleaños en la escuela, para el beneficio de la salud y el bienestar de los estudiantes. A los estudiantes ya no se les permitirá traer comida o pequeños regalos como lápices y pegatinas para compartir con otros estudiantes. Los cumpleaños continuarán siendo eventos divertidos para los estudiantes, y los maestros reconocerán a todos los estudiantes de maneras especiales en su día especial. La razón de este cambio es cumplir con la política de bienestar de nuestro Distrito que sigue el mandato federal sobre tomar decisiones saludables. El cambio también aborda las crecientes preocupaciones sobre los estudiantes afectados por las alergias alimentarias y la obesidad infantil. Si tienen alguna pregunta o inquietud, comuníquense con Stephany Stromme, Directora de Nutrición Infantil, al 507.645.3432 o al ssstromme@northfieldschools.org

Prácticas de seguridad escolar

La seguridad en la escuela es nuestra máxima prioridad. Cada año, las escuelas completan los ejercicios de seguridad obligatorios para preparar a los estudiantes y al personal en caso de una emergencia. Este año, Greenvale Park y todas las escuelas de Northfield completarán cinco simulacros de incendio, cinco simulacros de cierre de puertas y un simulacro de clima peligroso. Los maestros hacen un trabajo asombroso ayudando a los estudiantes a sentirse seguros durante estos ejercicios. Nuestra meta es ayudar a los estudiantes a sentirse confiados en lo que se espera que hagan durante un ejercicio para que se sientan seguros en las escuelas.

Nuevo personal en Greenvale Park

Este año recibimos un número de nuevo personal para Greenvale Park: Renee (Ren) Kurtz, maestra de arte; Paul Fried y Peggy Krasin, substitutes de largo plazo para Angela Eliason, profesora de música; Bruce McWilliams, substitute de largo plazo para Stefanie Bothun, directora de la banda; Lynsi Sherry, psicóloga; Joy Amunrud, trabajadora social; Whitney Sannes, discurso; Caitlin Bushey, sala de recursos; Deb Thomforde, apoyo de lectura; Ilana Forsgren, nutrición infantil; Brad Skapyak, custodio nocturno; Savannah Stuckmayer, co-coordinadora de la Escuela Comunitaria.

Programa de Segundo Paso (Second Step Program)

El Segundo Paso Social, currículo de aprendizaje emocional se está empezando a hacer este año en las aulas. Los estudiantes reciben una lección corta cada semana con posteriores lecciones de seguimiento. Las actividades proporcionan a los estudiantes una comprensión clara de las diferentes habilidades que apoyan la amistad y la amabilidad, incluyendo: habilidades de escuchar, empatía y hablarse a sí mismos. Los padres y madres verán las actividades en casa que les van a llegar en las mochilas. Les animamos a reforzar las lecciones en la escuela completando estas actividades en casa. Hay grandes consejos y maneras de practicar estas habilidades para tener más éxito en la escuela.

Nueva página de internet

Como habrán notado, las escuelas públicas de Northfield reformaron su página de internet durante el verano. Esperamos que hayan tenido tiempo de ver la nueva página; póngase en contacto con nosotros si tienen alguna pregunta o dificultad para localizar la información.

Queremos destacar algunas características importantes de la página:

En la página de inicio, hay secciones para acceso rápido a artículos de uso frecuente, tales como informar de una ausencia, pagos, registrarse para actividades, Schoology y Family Access.

En la esquina superior derecha de la página de inicio se encuentra la sección del referéndum que contiene información relacionada con el referéndum del 7 de noviembre sobre subida de impuestos y bonos.

Al seleccionar el botón español (ubicado en la parte superior derecha de la página de inicio), toda la página se traduce a español.

Al seleccionar el botón de español también puede ver una lista de personal que habla español y su información de contacto.

Referéndum

El 7 de noviembre de 2017, las escuelas públicas de Northfield están pidiendo a los votantes que consideren dos preguntas importantes en la elección especial. La primera pregunta pedirá a los votantes que cambien la actual tasa de operación y la reemplacen con un aumento de la tasa de operación por 10 años que se ajustará a la inflación. El impuesto de operación es esencial para asegurar que nuestra programación actual se pueda seguir haciendo, dada la insuficiente financiación crónica de las escuelas de Minnesota por parte del estado.

(Mr. Richardson's letter continued on page 4)

(Mr. Richardson's letter continued from page 3)

La segunda pregunta, que dependerá de la primera pregunta, solicitará a los votantes que autoricen al Distrito a vender \$ 109 millones en bonos (pagados en más de 25 años) para financiar la construcción de una nueva escuela primaria, en el mismo lugar que la actual Greenvale Park Elementary , y reusando ese edificio como un centro para la infancia; la construcción de una nueva escuela secundaria, high school, en la propiedad donde está la escuela secundaria y la demolición de la escuela secundaria existente; y modestas renovaciones o adiciones en las escuelas de Bridgewater, Sibley y Longfellow.

Es importante que los padres, madres y miembros de la comunidad sepan más sobre las elecciones y que voten el 7 de noviembre. Pueden encontrar más información, incluida una presentación en video y una calculadora interactiva del impacto fiscal a las familias y negocios, en nuestro sitio web en <https://northfieldschools.org/referendum>

Habrà una presentación del referéndum el 16 de octubre a las 7pm en el Northfield High School Auditorium. También habrá tours del high school el viernes, 13 de octubre a las 5:45 pm (antes del partido de fútbol de Varsity), el lunes 16 de octubre a las 5:45 pm antes de la presentación del referéndum, y el sábado 28 de octubre a las 10 am. Los tours se reunirán en la cafetería inferior (lower cafeteria).

Comienzo del maratón de lectura

La mayor actividad del PTO este año para recaudar fondos es el maratón de lectura (Read-a-Thon). Por favor, vean la información de Rebecca Stoufis en la página 4.

Mark Your Calendars Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences are Coming!!

Monday, November 6th – 4:00-7:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 9th – 4:00-7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 14th – 4:00-7:00 p.m.

We are pleased that Greenvale Park will again offer FREE child care during all three evenings of conferences, from 3:45-7:00 p.m. All parents need to do to take advantage of this free service is to sign your child(ren) in at the table in the front hall with the supervising staff member when you arrive, and sign them out after your conferences are done. School will not be in session Monday, November 6th, but will be in session on Thursday, November 9th and Tuesday, November 14th.

News from PE...Mary Wojick & Ryan Driscoll

We are off and moving in PE! It has been great to get outside and play! Here's what we've done so far this year:

Movement activities: warm up jog, tag activities, animal movements (younger students).

Passing activities: partner work, 5 pass, ultimate, clean up your backyard (younger students).



Please remember: Students have PE four days a week and need to be prepared for activity. This means having PE shoes and socks (no sandals, hiking boots, etc.), and appropriate clothing for going outside when weather permits! Thanks for your help!



October 17, 2017

FREE Family Science Night!

**JOIN US FOR A FREE FAMILY SCIENCE
NIGHT HOSTED BY THE WORKS MUSEUM!**



Who: GVP Students, Families & Staff

Where: Greenvale Park Elementary

Date: Tuesday ~ October 17, 2017

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

**DON'T
MISS OUT!**



We need TWENTY volunteers to make this happen! All directions and materials are provided! Here's what we need from volunteers:

- ▶ 4:30-5:30pm - Attend training at Greenvale Park Elementary.
- ▶ 5:30-7:30pm - Assist at one of the 10 stations (2 volunteers per station).

If you have questions or if you're interested in volunteering, please contact Heather Ryden at hryden@northfieldschools.org or 507-645-3500. Thank you!

!Noche de Ciencias para Familias Gratis!

!UNASE CON NOSOTROS PARA UNA NOCHE DE CIENCIAS PARA FAMILIAS PRESENTADO POR EL MUSEO THE WORKS!

Quién: Estudiantes, familia, y empleos de GVP

Dónde: La Primaria Greenvale Park

Fecha: martes el 17 de octubre, 2017

Hora: 5:30-7:30pm

Engineering Fun

¡NO TE
PIERDAS!



¡Necesitamos VEINTE voluntarios para realizar este evento! ¡Todas de las direcciones y instrucciones se están proveídos! A continuación es que necesitamos de los voluntarios:

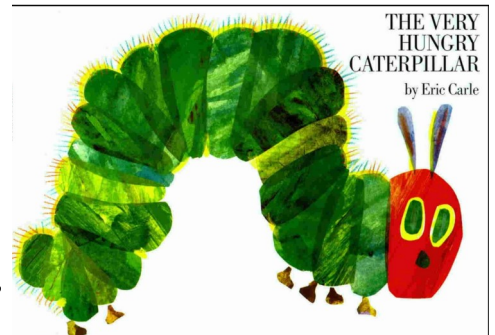
- ▶ 4:30-5:30pm - Asistirse al entrenamiento en la Primaria Greenvale Park.
- ▶ 5:30-7:30pm - Asistirse a uno de los 10 estaciones (2 voluntarios por cada uno).

Si tiene preguntas o interés en ofrecerse como voluntario, contacte a Savannah Stuckmayer al [sstuckmayer@northfieldschools.org](mailto:ssstuckmayer@northfieldschools.org) o 507-301-4584. ¡Gracias!

PTO Read-a-Thon

The Greenvale Park PTO is very excited to announce our upcoming Read-a-Thon! Our Geckos love to read, and plenty of reading we will do!

This year's Read-a-Thon serves as our annual school fundraiser, and will take place from October 6-26. A kickoff assembly will be held on October 6, with a skit performed by Mr. Driscoll and Ms. Malecha. Every student will receive a bookmark, and information packets will be sent home. Additionally, there will be twelve prize buckets, in which every single student will be eligible to participate, regardless of donations collected.



Our monetary goal is to earn \$20,000 from the Read-a-Thon, in terms of donations provided, as well as rewards for incremental earnings.

Tickets given to every student for reading and returning their envelope back to school for a bucket prize

\$5,000-PJ Day on October 27

\$10,000-Extra Recess

\$15,000-Mr. Richardson will dress as his favorite book character for the entire day

\$20,000-Field Day/Mystery Scavenger Hunt

Our final day of the Read-a-Thon on October 26 will include: 120 minutes of reading by every student, rotating rooms, and will be staff-coordinated. The Read-a-Thon will conclude with a Celebration Night from 5:30-7:30, with refreshments sold, raffle drawings, and music by our DJ, Mr. Driscoll.

Reading is fun! Reading is awesome! Reading is cool! Our Geckos are also fun, awesome, cool and SUPER READERS!

NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN...Mitzi Holden



As we kick off the fall season, I would like to remind you of our wonderful Farm-to-School program. Northfield school district is a great place to have a farm-to-school program. We have awesome farmers! We will have sweet corn from Pahl Farms in Apple Valley, all-beef hot dogs from Thousand Hills in Cannon Falls, assorted apples from Fireside Orchard in Northfield, and purple carrots, butternut squash and watermelon radishes from Open Hands Farm in Northfield.

This is our eighth year of featuring local Farm-to-School products on our menus. Please feel free to join your children for lunch to taste the wonderful produce from our area.

Daily Salad Specials

Once again this year, Greenvale Park students and staff can choose a salad of the day as their meal option. Each day we offer a fresh salad, for those who chose this option, with the schedule being: Monday: Chicken Cesar salad; Tuesday: Taco salad; Wednesday: Chef salad; Thursday: Crispy chicken salad; Friday: Oriental chicken salad. Included with this option are a fruit choice, whole-grain bread choice and milk.

Snack Cart

It's not too late to sign your student up for our snack! Our snack cart is full of tasty and good for you foods! We have fresh fruit, graham snacks, cheese sticks, yogurt and a variety of tasty veggies. If you need a snack form to fill out, please call the kitchen at 507.645.3509.





Coming Soon — Scholastic Book Fair!!

This year we are hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in November, during the evenings of Parent/Teacher Conferences. We need several volunteers to help with an easy set-up, sales and tear-down each night. Please consider volunteering. Commitments are a little over an hour. To volunteer, go to <http://tinyurl.com/gvpbookfair>

News from our Nurse...Julie Ochs

Welcome back! It is good to see our returning students and their families, and meet our new students and families. A new school year is always exciting and fun. We are off to a fast space start - hearing and vision has been done and rescreens are coming up. I will send out letters if your child did not pass hearing or vision when rescreens are finished.

Please remember if your student had a health issue in the past and is in need of a careplan, please bring that in from your doctor, or call with any questions. A new form is required every year for a careplan such as asthma, allergies, or any other health concerns. If your child has an illness such as a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or an undiagnosed rash please refer to the handbook about keeping your child home; again, if you are uncertain feel free to call the health office. Please report any conditions such as lice, strep throat or any contagious disease.

The cold and flu season is approaching. Flu vaccines are now available at the clinics. Please encourage good handwashing, covering your cough, along with enough rest and fluids to have your student and family stay as healthy as possible.



Endangered Bumble Bee: Rusty Patched Bumble Bee

The Rusty Patched Bumble Bee is the first bee in the United States to become an endangered species. Endangered species are animals and plants that could become extinct if not protected. The bee has been sighted in Northfield, so we are very lucky to be able to see it. It was once very common in Minnesota and to many of the states east of us, but now is very rare with few sightings. It is easy to identify for on its back it has a yellow circle with a rusty color inside of it. It is larger than most of the other bumble bees. When viewing bees, always have an adult nearby, for they can sting. If you are allergic to bee stings, best not to go near them.



Photo by Arlene Kjar

The Rusty Patched Bumble Bees live in a colony consisting of a queen, workers, and male bees. They once lived in the prairies but since most prairies have been lost, degraded, or fragmented, little habitat is left for them. Bumble bees need a continuous supply of pollen and nectar from flowers. They live underground and need undisturbed soil for their overwintering queens. All of the bees die in the fall, except the new queens which diapause (a form of hibernation).

What we can do to help the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee is to grow a garden and add a flowering tree or shrub to our yards. They especially like native asters, lupines, bee balm, and many ephemerals (early spring flowers). Keep some unmowed brushy areas, and reduce tilling and mowing. Limit the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizer.

The picture is of a Rusty Patched Bumble Bee in Arlene and Dennis Kjar's pollinator garden on Manitou Street. Each sunny day, during the afternoon, we see two or three of the bees on the asters. We will be watching to see if a queen appears in the spring.

Northfield Prairie Partners Chapter of Wild Ones invites you to free nature programs. *Native Prairie Sparrows* by Gerry Hoestra will be on October 12, at Emmaus Baptist Church, 712 Linden Street N, Northfield, starting at 7:00 pm. On November 9, Nancy Schumacher will present a program called *Creating and Maintaining a Native Flower Garden*. It will start at 7:00 pm, and will also be held at Emmaus Baptist Church.

Arlene Kjar, President of the Northfield Prairie Partners Chapter of Wild Ones.

Community Services

Check out some great recreational and enrichment programs for youth this fall with Northfield Public Schools Community Services! For more information or to register visit www.northfieldschools.org (follow the Community Services link), call 507-664-3649, or stop by our office on the first floor of the Northfield Community Resource Center at 1651 Jefferson Parkway, Northfield. **Scholarships are available for all programs.**

Child & Babysitting Safety Class (CABS)

\$59, grades 4-8, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Sa., Oct. 14, NCRC YW108 **Class #: 4351-F17A**

Home Alone Safety Workshop for Children

\$34, grades 3 - 7, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Sa., Oct. 14, NCRC YW108, **Class #: 4354-F17A**

Grandmasters of Chess: Fall Season

\$99, grades K - 5, 3:20 - 4:20 p.m. Tu., Oct. 17 - Dec. 12 (skip Nov. 14), Greenvale Park Media Center, **Class #: 4340-F17G**

Extreme STEM: Copters & Spy Planes

\$75, grades k-3, 3:20 - 4:20 p.m., M, Oct. 23 - Dec. 4, (skip Nov. 6), Greenvale Park Media Center, **Class #: 4434-F17G**

Prairie Fire Children's Theater Presents Tom Sawyer

\$75, grades 2-8, 4-8:15 p.m. M-Sa., Nov. 13-18, Middle School Auditorium **Class #: 4171-F17A**

Watch Me Draw: Create Like a Pro! Fall Art Blast!

\$75, grades K-5, 3:20-4:20 p.m., Th. Nov. 2-Dec. 14, (no class Nov. 9 & 23) Greenvale Park Art Room, **Class #: 4395-F17G**

Northfield Arts Guild: Kids Clay Studio

\$123 NAG Member/\$136 Non-NAG Member, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Th. Nov. 2-Dec. 14 (no class Nov. 23), **Class #: 4401-F17B**

KidVentures (School-Age Care)

Looking for before or after school care? Consider KidVentures! KidVentures is located in all three elementary schools and runs from 6:30 AM until the start of school and after school until 6:00 PM. KidVentures provides a wide variety of enrichment and recreation opportunities that fosters social, emotional, physical, and academic development. For more information or to find enrollment forms, visit the website: <http://northfieldschools.org/communityservices/venture/> or call 507-664-3750.

Lost and Found

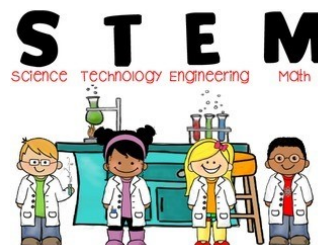
The Greenvale Park Lost and Found is already starting to accumulate. Please be sure to check it out any time during school hours, and most especially during your Fall Conference time. The Lost and Found will be bagged up after conferences and donated to a worthy cause.

September Character Kids



Our character trait for September was Respect. Respect means acting in a way that shows others you care about their feelings, ideas, and property. Students who are good representatives of the character trait are nominated by staff and given an award at the monthly building-wide meeting. This month's Character Kids are: Row 1, L-R Guadalupe Gallego, Lizzy Willkomm, Lily Davis, Jaiker Vang, Mikey Orihuela Rivera, Jaimaiyu Vang, Aurorah Matejcek, Yazmine Camacho; Row 2, L-R Mr. Richardson, Siri Richardson, Madilynn Loftus, Noa Marohl, Greta Marohl, Logan Gilomen, Leah Boysen, Bella Osorio, Melanie Bravo Rosas, Alyssa Malecha, Marissa Vatter, Brittney Noreen (not pictured)

Babysitting



ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

2017-2018 School Year

Student Citizenship Handbook Distributed

The 2017-2018 Student Citizenship Handbook is distributed to all secondary students on their iPad and the youngest elementary school-aged child in the family.

The handbook includes information regarding expectations for student behavior. The handbook includes a comprehensive list of regulations for student behavior and consequences for misbehavior. Included in the handbook is the district's policies on Bullying, Hazing, Personal Possessions/Lockers, Technology Use, Harassment, Possession of Controlled Substances, Weapons, and Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles (including patrols, inspections and searches). Consequences are consistent, but vary depending on the severity of the offense, the student's grade level and previous violations. The handbook also includes a chart that outlines offenses that could possibly lead to expulsion.

The rights and responsibilities detailed in the handbook apply to students in any school, on district property, at school bus stops and at school or district events. Consequences may also apply for misbehaviors that take place at other locations, but which directly affect school programs or activities.

Parents are encouraged to read and review information in the handbook with their student(s) before finding a place to save it for the school year. Teachers will also briefly review information in the handbook with students at the start of the school year.

If your student's handbook is misplaced, you can pick up a copy at your student's school. The handbook is also available online at <http://northfieldschools.org/about/handbooks/>

Northfield Public Schools in Compliance with AHERA

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986 requires the district to notify parents annually concerning asbestos-containing building materials in the schools, and that the management plan for each building is available for their review. Federal law requires a periodic walk-through (called "surveillance") every six months of each area containing asbestos. In addition, the law requires all buildings to be re-inspected every three years after a management plan went into effect. IEA (Institute for Environmental Assessment) completed this for the Northfield Public Schools in 2013. For the 2016-2017 school year, Northfield Public Schools does not have any asbestos removal projects planned. During the summer of 2017, Northfield Public Schools will continue with the abatement of mercury/asbestos containing flooring at Sibley Elementary School. The number of rooms has yet to be determined. Any questions concerning this notice or an explanation of our Asbestos Management Plan can be directed to the Director of Buildings and Grounds at 507.663.0610.

The following notice is published pursuant to Minnesota law, "Parents Right to Know Act."

Northfield Public Schools recognizes the importance of our students' and employees' health and well-being. Therefore, we are examining and reducing our use of pesticides and utilizing Integrated Pest Management techniques in our school buildings and on school grounds to minimize the possible long-term unknown health effects of pesticides.

Northfield Public Schools will make available, in the school district office, for parents and employees, the estimated schedule of application of pesticides classified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as designated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. Parents may also request that the school district notify him/her prior to the application of such pesticides on a day different from the days specified in the notice. If a person would like to be notified prior to application, please provide an email address or a name and telephone number to the Buildings & Grounds Department at 507.663.0610.

Indoor Air Quality

Northfield Public Schools continues to improve an indoor air quality management plan for the district. The management plan is based on the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) "Tools for Schools." It addresses policies and procedures that will be used in the schools to address indoor air quality issues. The plan's goal is to provide indoor air quality that contributes to a favorable learning environment for students, productivity for teachers and staff, as well as an environment that is as healthy

as possible. However, the intent of the plan is not to solve all indoor air quality concerns in a school, rather the intent is to provide a road map to assist in managing indoor air quality. Northfield Public Schools completed both "Lead in water" testing and "Radon" testing of school district facilities in 2017. State law now mandates Lead in water testing every 5 years and Radon testing is recommended every 5 years. Northfield Public Schools will be completing both areas of testing again in 2022, as mandated by law and the school district's plan.

The Indoor Air Quality Committee has joined the Health and Safety Committee to review and continually update the management plan.

If you have any questions concerning indoor air quality, or would like to see the EPA Tools for Schools checklists, please contact the District Indoor Air Quality Coordinator at 507.663.0610.

Special Education Services Available at all Schools

Federal and state laws guide the school district in identifying, evaluating and serving students with disabilities.

Northfield Public Schools serves students with disabilities from birth through age 21. A team of special educators, general educators and families work together to develop an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) for students who meet the criteria for services. The IEP team considers the student's present level of performance, identifies educational needs and develops goals to meet those needs. The team determines the educational program that will serve the student in the least restrictive setting.

Northfield Public Schools provides a continuum of services for students with disabilities. Most students receive special education in their neighborhood school. The district also has specialized, center-based programs for students who need more support.

For more information on identifying, evaluating and providing service to students with disabilities, contact your child's school principal or Cheryl Hall, Director of Special Services, at 507.645.3410.

District in Compliance with State-Required Background Checks

Parents and community members are always encouraged to apply as an employee or volunteer at their student's school and/or with Northfield Public Schools. Volunteers provide a valuable service to students and staff. Minnesota Statute requires a school hiring authority to request a criminal history background check on all individuals who are offered employment in a school and on all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular services to a school, regardless of whether any compensation is paid. Parents and community members who volunteer on a regular basis must complete a background check before serving students affiliated with Northfield Public Schools.

Data Privacy Practices

Pursuant to the requirements of state and federal law, the following constitutes Northfield Public Schools Annual Notification to parents and students regarding data privacy practices.

Northfield schools maintain educational records on all students to help plan the student's educational program, communicate with parents/guardians, and comply with state regulations. Student records include information such as standardized achievement and ability test data, grades, attendance records, health/medical records and evaluation by professional staff.

Except in limited circumstances authorized by law, most information from student records will not be released to members of the public without the written permission of the student's parent or guardian, or of the student, if he or she is 18 or older.

District policy guarantees parents/guardians (and students 18 and older) the right to examine the contents of their own student's records except those items that are, by state or federal law, made confidential.

Parents/guardians (and students 18 and older) have the right to challenge the accuracy of these records and also the right to authorize or deny release of records requested by a third party.

The district forwards educational records of students to other schools and school districts in which the student seeks or intends to enroll upon request of that school or school district. Parents are not notified prior to this transfer.

This review of the data privacy rights of students in the educational records maintained by Northfield Public Schools is intended only to be a summary of the district policy and applicable state and federal law. The policy can be found at <http://nfld.k12.mn.us/files/Board-Policy-515-Protection-and-Privacy-of-Pupil-Records-Approved-8.25.08-Updated-December-20132.pdf>. Questions should be addressed to: Dr. Matthew J. Hillmann, Superintendent, Northfield Public Schools, 1400 Division Street South, Northfield, MN 55057 or by calling 507.663.0629.

Notice of Designation of Directory Information

School districts are required by state and federal law to notify parents and students that certain information contained in a student's education record may be made public without prior written consent. The Northfield Public Schools designates the following as "directory information" and may, in accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act, release the following directory information without permission unless the district has been notified that it should not be released.

- Student's name, address, telephone number
- Parent's name, address, telephone number
- Student's date of birth
- Student's major field of study
- Student's dates of school attendance, grade level completed, enrollment status
- Student's participation in officially recognized activities/sports
- Student's height and weight, if a member of an athletic team
- Middle and High School Student Athletic Physical Examination Expiration Date
- Student's degrees, honors and awards received
- Student's most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student's photograph(s), videotapes and other visual representations for school-approved publications, yearbooks, newspapers, public presentations and web pages.

A parent/guardian of a student or an eligible student (18 years of age or older) may object to the listed directory information being disclosed without the parent/guardian or eligible student's prior written consent except to school officials as provided under federal law. In order to make all directory information private, the parent/guardian or eligible student must submit a completed Denial of Release of Directory Information (Appendix C to Policy 515-Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records) to your student's building principal or the Superintendent of Schools. This designation will remain in effect for the current school year only.

Federal and state laws require all school districts to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the name, address and telephone number of all 11th and 12th grade students within 60 days after the date of the request unless the parent or eligible student (students over 18 years old and not a dependent) requests that the information not be provided without written permission. If you do not want Northfield Public Schools to release your student's name, address and telephone number to a military recruiter, you must complete Appendix D (Denial of Release of Information to Military Recruiters) to Policy 515-Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records. Please note that if you previously submitted a Denial of Release of Directory Information (Appendix C), it alone will not be sufficient. The law requires that a specific denial of access to military recruiters be made. In order to make all directory information about a student private to the public in general, including military recruiting officers, the parent/guardian or eligible student must complete Appendix C **and** Appendix D.