Having good attendance in school is very important. Scholars attending school every day means s/he will not miss out on learning opportunities. Please try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If your child is asking to miss school, please ask questions about why they want to miss. Let them know that they have to be in school unless they are truly sick.

We are finding that many of our scholars are coming to school are very tired and late regularly. As adults, we know all too well how it feels to be tired trying to do quality work and make it through the day. Scholars showing up in these conditions are finding it challenging to navigate the day of learning with their peers. You can help us help your child each day by setting a reasonable and consistent bedtime so that they get ample rest and are ready for the next school day. On behalf of our entire staff I want to thank you in advance for this. It will make a difference.

The Heights’ team continues to look for ways to connect with families and it’s wonderful getting to know everyone. We are still interested in hosting a school event in our community where families come together. We are looking for ways to increase family participation at our evening events. It’s also an opportunity for our Heights staff community to get to know and learn more about our Eastside community. Our student leadership is working with me on ideas to make this vision a reality.

If you have suggestions for a great location for us to host one of our school community events please send me an email at chreese.jones@spps.org or reach out to Ms. Julie Wellman at julie.wellman@spps.org.

In the meantime, have a wonderful December and I hope to see each of you here at The Heights Community School for one of our future calendar events.

In Partnership,

Principal Chreese Jones
The next PTA meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, January 10
5:00-7pm

Please join us!

*********************************

Saints North
Family Skate Center
1818 Gervais Ct, Maplewood
(651) 770-3848

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, Sept 25</td>
<td>6:00-8 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Dec 6</td>
<td>6:00-8 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, Feb 8</td>
<td>5:15-7:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues, April 16</td>
<td>6:00-8 pm</td>
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Chuck E Cheese
445 Commerce Dr, Woodbury, MN

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Oct 17</td>
<td>3:00-9 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, Jan 18</td>
<td>3:00-9 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, March 15</td>
<td>3:00-9 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, May 10</td>
<td>3:00-9 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Keep collecting:

Box Tops for Education

Order Heights T-shirts and jackets all year round at:
http://stores.inksoft.com/heightscommunityschool/shop/home

Many styles, colors and sizes to choose from!

Apparel is delivered to the school and passed out to the student to take home.

Vacation Procedure

If your student will be missing school due to a planned vacation, send a note to school stating the reason the student will not be in school and the days the student will be absent. The principal will make the decision as to whether or not the absence will be excused.

Save the Date!

Attention Families!

The Heights will be having a Multicultural Family Night on Wednesday, January 30.
We’d like your input and help!

We’d love to have as many of our diverse backgrounds represented at this event as possible.

Think about the talents of your household such as music, dance, art, crafts, traditional dress, demonstrations, etc. and how you might be willing to share these talents during the event.

Look for a flier with a survey and sign-up sheet the first week of January or call Julie Wellman at 651-293-8815 with your ideas!

Cell Phone Use Reminder

Students should not be bringing cell phones to school, unless it is required for a safety concern, before or after school. Please help us remind our students not to bring cell phones or other electronic devices to school. We want our students to focus on their studies, not their devices.

Please check out more guidelines in our Family Handbook at spps.org/heights
Dear Parents,

Please check the immunization records your children brought home. Please make an appointment to have your child/children complete all the required immunization before end of December.

My goal this school year is for our school to have zero exclusion. Thanks for all your support in seeing that this goal is achieved. Together we can make a difference in our children's lives.

Thanks,
Ms Obasi (School Nurse)

SPPS Winter Weather Plan

**COLD**
School will be canceled if the forecast for 6 a.m. the following morning shows:
- Wind Chill is below -35 degrees Fahrenheit OR
- Air Temperature is below -25 degrees Fahrenheit

**SNOW**
The decision to cancel school for snow or hazardous driving conditions will continue to be made by 5 a.m. the morning of a cancellation.

**RECESS**
Schools will keep students inside if the wind chill is expected to be colder than -10 degrees below zero.

Families can view the complete winter weather plan, recess plan, clothing guidelines, safety tips and school bus safety at spps.org/winter. Translations are available for download.

Eagle Rider Tickets

Bus drivers hand out Excellent Eagle Rider tickets to students who follow bus expectations.

Students write their name and teacher on the ticket and give it to their teacher.

Teachers collect all tickets and put them in the Eagle Rider ticket bucket located in the copying room.

Ms. Leko will draw 7 tickets every Friday morning and those winners will be announced every Monday during morning announcements.

Students whose names are called will report to The CARES room for their Eagle Rider positive bus behavior reward.

Conversation Corner

A conversation with your child is a great way to encourage children to increase vocabulary and gain confidence with speaking. Mrs. Galowitz and Mrs. Johanson have worked together to give you some ideas to help you get more than a “yes”, “ok”, or “no” answer when asking your child about their school day. On the way home, at dinner or even bedtime is a great time for these simple questions.

1. Tell me about a time when you felt proud this week.
2. Tell me about your favorite activity at school.
3. If you could do today over, what would you do differently?
4. What did you eat for lunch today, and what is your favorite thing to eat for lunch?
5. What is something you want to learn and why?

As answers develop using a phrase such as, “tell me more” will help your child make more connections to school. It is a busy day full of learning and we hope children begin to talk more about the wonders of their school day.
**Physical Education-Mr. Guthrie**

For the month of December, our 3rd-5th grade students will be learning how to not only bowl, but how to score their own game as well. We will start by learning how to set up a scoring sheet, how to properly hold and roll the ball, and how to score a basic game. Once students learn the basics, we will start to add in scoring strikes and spares. To finish the unit, students will have to play and score their own game of bowling.

For grades K-2nd, we will be focusing on throwing and catching. We will work on throwing and catching yarn balls by ourselves, while standing still, walking, and using both and single hands. The second week of our rotation, we will focus on throwing and catching different objects with a partner. We will also be playing games that require throwing and catching, like Clean Out Your Back Yard, and Flag Relays.

**Science-Ms. Saunders-Pearce**

Greetings from the science room! Here is what we are working on:

- **5th grade**- Designing an investigation with pendulums.
- **4th grade**- Finding out what materials magnets stick to, and what materials conduct electricity.
- **3rd grade**- Structures and Functions of plants and animals
- **2nd grade**- Germinating seeds and planting them
- **1st grade**- Observing and investigating rocks.

Kindergarten- Investigating how different leaves are shaped.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Becky Saunders-Pearce  651-293-8815
becky.saunders-pearce@spps.org

**Music-Mr. Claver**

This unit, scholars worked on music literacy and consistency. Grades 3-5 worked on identifying the notes of the treble clef, while grades 1 and 2 started identifying quarter and eighth notes. Starting this month, 3rd grade will start a recorder unit, and 4th and 5th grade will start their ukulele unit. Please look for a letter that further explains our agreements with these units. All students continue to reinforce basic music skills such as keeping a steady beat and pitch matching. Scholars in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Grade are working on developing their singing voices, moving to music, and performing rhythms with eighth note difficulties.

Looking ahead!

Our Spring Music Concerts are Friday, May 17.
K-2 – 9:45am
3-5 – 2:10pm

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**Enrichment-Ms. Clardy**

**Enrichment classes** met two times in November. We have continued to learn about how our brains work.

November's lessons were on: Feedback and critiques—understand why receiving feedback is useful and how to give constructive, effective feedback.

Grit and Perseverance—understand new mindset vocabulary of passion, stamina, and perseverance. We discussed that successful people have grit.

**GT classes** meet every Monday. In December students will be involved in individual research projects.

**Student Council** meets on Mondays—They will address school spirit, the yearbook, bulletin boards, fundraising for charity, Read Across America Read-athon at the Heights and more.

**Dominos Club** meets on Friday’s. It focuses on strategic thinking, number recognition, counting, addition, and the ability to instantaneously recognize the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them.

**4th and 5th grade Chess Club** will begin on December 7th. Chess focuses on abstract reasoning, creative thinking, pattern recognition, and strategic thinking.

**Hmong dance** begins December 6th... Hmong dancing helps dancers understand the Hmong culture more. Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Mary.frances.clardy@spps.org

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**Translations & Interpreters**

School documents can be translated upon request or interpreters made available upon request.

**Somali** (Somali)
yeti / bëti sëndochtë bet’yäk’e weyimi āsiterigwamwochi lìteregoomu yichitalu.

**Myanmar (Burmese)**
kyawngghcaraote hcaawrhwcartammyaar
taunggsmuhkshoetmalhohon m r shineine lote hcaakarpyan

**Nepali (Nepali)**
Anurōdhāmā sūkla kāgajātāhārī anuvāda garna sakinchā vā vyākhjākārtāhārī upalabdha garī’āna sakinchā.

**Spanish**
Todos los documentos pueden ser traducidos o interpretados oralmente si usted lo solicita.

**Hmong**
Tej ntaub ntawv tom tsev kawm ntawv uas xa los rau nej, peb

**Somali**
Dhammaan dukumiintiypadu isikuulkaa waa la turjuma karra ama waxaa la heli karraa turjumaan haddii la codsado”

Karen

“጖ም መንግስትናአራባበርናና እንደ ያለው መንግስትነትናአራባበርና鳌 ያለው ከሚስጋለው ከማይስጡ ከማይጭጭ ከሚስጋለው”
The Heights Community School  
2018-2019 Family Friendly SCIP

At The Heights Community School, we will create a strong community with focused instruction and critical partnerships that effectively meet the academic and social needs of all students.

One of the tools we use to continually improve our school towards that mission is the district’s SCIP (School Comprehensive Improvement Plan) process. In our SCIP document, we review our school-wide data and create a strategic plan for the school year ahead.

This year, we have three main areas of focus in our SCIP, keeping a strong theme of culturally relevant, personalized learning practices at the core of all that we do:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>READING</th>
<th>We will focus on improving our scholar’s reading levels by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Differentiating small group Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Co-Teaching with Special Education/Multiple Language Learning teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Conferring with students to differentiate instruction and provide feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Teachers providing data driven phonics instruction</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATH</th>
<th>We will focus on improving our scholar’s math abilities by:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Teachers personalizing learning through differentiated instruction with flex groups and activities based on each scholar’s needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Teachers providing specific language supports which emphasizes students’ speaking and writing with accurate math vocabulary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Teachers enhancing students’ number sense and computational skills where they have gaps or misunderstandings through daily Math Review and Mental Math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Teaching math facts (adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing) using a variety of ways to improve fluency.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURE</th>
<th>We will strengthen our school-wide implementation of our Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 by:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- teaching staff to utilize components of Morning Meeting and Closing Circle daily</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- teaching staff will be trained in and use Innocent Classroom strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- staff receiving training and providing instruction for emotional self -regulation strategies (Zones of Regulation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- As a PBIS Team, we will monthly review our classroom procedures, feedback/acknowledgement systems, and discipline policies school-wide.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information, you can find the complete version of our 2018-2019 SCIP document here on our website spps.org/heights

We appreciate your commitment to your child’s success and your collaboration in this process. We look forward to another year of partnership with our school!
April 2019.

The percentage of all students scoring proficient or higher in Reading will increase from 29% to 36% by Spring 2019 as measured by the MCA III Reading Assessment administered in April 2019.

The percentage of all students scoring proficient or higher in Math will increase from 28% to 46% by Spring 2019 as measured by the MCA III Math Assessment administered April 2019.

The Heights Community School will provide families:
- a welcoming environment that promotes communication; identifies barriers that prevent racial equity; works with families as their children start and leave our school
- a partnership that shares responsibility for student success; opportunities to build connections to school and each other; meetings and events available to every family; opportunities for parent leadership and advocacy; the foundation of parents’ information and skills for becoming more involved in our school
- information about student achievement in multiple ways; engagement in Personalized Learning; before and after school enrichment and support opportunities for students
- community partnerships for additional support for students success; opportunities to build connections to school and each other; meetings and events available to every family; opportunities for parent leadership and advocacy; the foundation of parents’ information and skills for becoming more involved in our school
- information about student achievement in multiple ways; engagement in Personalized Learning; before and after school enrichment and support opportunities for students

### The Heights 2018-19 Family Engagement Plan At-A-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open House Meet &amp; Greet for New Families</td>
<td>School Program Review and Classroom Visits</td>
<td>Thurs, Aug 30, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zones of Regulation Information Night</td>
<td>Provide Information about Curriculum regarding Behavior and Culture/Climate</td>
<td>Wed, Oct 10, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA Meetings Yearly fiscal budget information is presented and discussed at the April 18 meeting.</td>
<td>In addition to PTA information, parents are also given information regarding curriculum, standards, MCAs, attendance issues, etc.</td>
<td>Thurs, Oct 11, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chat with The Principal</td>
<td>Open forum for parents to bring concerns, questions, etc. and learn about curriculum, standards, MCAs, attendance issues, etc.</td>
<td>Wed, Oct 25, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title I Annual Meeting and Family Math Night</td>
<td>Present Information about Title I programs and explore hands-on math activities.</td>
<td>Thurs, Oct 25, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>Conduct a family/teacher conference during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child’s achievement; -Provide frequent reports to families on their child’s progress; and -Provide families with reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class activities.</td>
<td>Nov 15 &amp; 20, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multicultural Family Night</td>
<td>Reading strategies paired with multicultural books available to support reading at home.</td>
<td>Wed, Jan 30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National African Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID)</td>
<td>Parenting tips available to support learning at home.</td>
<td>Mon, Feb 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Family Night</td>
<td>Supporting reading in the home (combined with I Love To Read month)</td>
<td>Thurs, Feb 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Academy</td>
<td>Parents are given the opportunity to learn the process of getting their students through Saint Paul Public Schools for graduation and beyond.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Budget and Parent Planning Forums</td>
<td>Parents are given the opportunity to review the current school year and given input to help plan for the next school year.</td>
<td>Budget: Tues, April 18, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PreK and Kindergarten Registration and Orientation</td>
<td>Supporting transition by working with families of new students.</td>
<td>Thursday, May 16, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>