Teachers plant the seeds of knowledge that will grow forever.  **Author Unknown**

Summer is right around the corner and I am having a flood of emotions. There is part of me that looks to summer as the much-needed break in the action to reset and plan and there is also the part of me that is looking at our students in amazement with how they have grown. Our staff have been planting those seeds of knowledge, advice, support, love and laughter all year long. For some, their next chapter is high school. For others, we will be looking to them to be the next leaders at Murray. In the end, we are hopeful that Murray helped to prepare our young Pilots for high school and beyond. Our school is filled with people that will one day change the world. We are so very proud of our Pilots and grateful that we got to be in front of them during some of their most influential years.

I want to thank all of our families for supporting our students and staff throughout this school year. As we prepare for next year, we are very excited to begin bringing back all of the Murray traditions that help strengthen relationships, connect our community and build memories. We wish our 8th graders the very best as they transition to high school and we look forward to all of our 6th and 7th graders stepping up and growing into the leaders we know they can be.

We at Murray look forward to the continued partnership with our Pilot families. On behalf of our staff, we wish you all a safe, warm and healthy summer!

**Celebrations:**
National Junior Honor Society - On Thursday night, Murray was able to celebrate with families, our 28 outgoing 21/22 NJHS members and induct our 24 new 22/23 members. We are so very proud of these Pilots and look forward to their leadership next school year!

#Pilotprops of the week! Ms. Lombardi nominates Aaliyah Kriesel. She has made a lot of growth in self advocacy and peer engagement. From 6th grade to 8th grade the amount of growth is fantastic. She has a bright future. Way to go Aaliyah! Go Pilots!

#Pilotprops of the week! Ms. Phillips would like to nominate Olivia Naseth. Olivia has grown as a Murray student. She has increased her independence and she always offers a friendly greeting or compliment! Way to go Olivia!

Your Co-Pilot,

Jamin McKenzie
Principal, Murray Middle School
**Counselor’s Corner**

**Summer School:**
Summer School Registration is now open.

The main link is:
[ssps.org/summer](https://ssps.org/summer)

The middle school link is also included below. Although the priority date was April 15th, you can still sign your child up for Summer School.

[https://www.spps.org/Domain/12605](https://www.spps.org/Domain/12605)

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**Sixth Grade**

**English with Ms. Stedje:**
Ms. Stedje’s 6th-grade classes are hosting a POETRY SLAM at the end of the year! The dates of the slam will be Tuesday, June 7th and Wednesday, June 8th. If you are a family member or friend, please feel free to stop by and join us for one of the performances if you are able. The slam will be hosted during your student's class time and will be the same on both days. More information is to come.

Please reach out to Ms. Stedje with any questions.
[rebecca.stedje@spps.org](mailto:rebecca.stedje@spps.org)

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**Seventh Grade**

**Science with Mr. Altringer:**
We have three bird boxes with baby black capped chickadees in them and one with 6 eggs to come in the next few days.

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**Eighth Grade**

**8th Grade Recognition Ceremony**

Wednesday, June 8th

9:30am – Students in Foundations:
- Atkinson/Chase
- Boyer
- Ciancio
- Dahlberg
- Decourt

2:00pm – Students in Foundations:
- Bernard/Prechel
- Harrison/Upton
- Hayden/Mattila
- Hirthe/Roe
- Jackson
- Madden
- Nalepka/Scheid
- Wenzel

**Hot Spots**

Please Return All Hotspots

SPPS will no longer be using Hotspots to provide students with Internet access. They are going to be using Comcast Internet Essentials instead. If you still have a Hotspot at home, working or not, please return it to school by Friday, June 10.

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**iPads**

On Wednesday, June 8, all students will be cleaning iPads at school. All students are welcome to keep the iPads for the summer, returning to school with them in the fall. Any students who are attending Summer School must keep their iPads and bring them to summer school. Only those students who are not returning to St. Paul Public Schools or students whose families don't want the iPads over the summer will turn them in at the library with the case and charger on June 8 after cleaning. Eighth graders attending a St. Paul Public Schools high school do not turn iPads in unless their family doesn't want it over the summer.

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**Ramsey County**

St. Paul Ramsey County Public Health has changed its immunization clinic hours:

- Tuesday: 8:30-3:30
- Thursday: 1:00-6:30.

Call 651-266-1234, Option #1 for more information.

SPRCPH can provide immunizations to privately insured individuals, as well as those without insurance or on state insurance plans.
The Civitas Awards symbolizes the bridges between the College and the community. It is a replica of the "Big M" suspension bridge that until recently served as a bridge from the East Bank into the Marcy Holmes neighborhood.

The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) has selected the winners of its 2021 Civitas Awards. The Civitas Awards were launched in 2019 as part of the college's 150th-anniversary celebration. The Civitas Awards recognize individuals and organizations that are strong partners with CLA as well as individuals and organizations that make a strong, positive difference in their community. Through the Civitas Awards, the college recognizes community partners whose work and impact align with CLA’s mission.
Civitas Community Partner Award

Jamin McKenzie, Principal, Murray Middle School

The Pioneer Press

Mixed Blood Theatre

Civitas Community Partners are individual community members and/or organizations engaged with CLA in the past year for the betterment of society in a manner that is aligned with CLA’s purpose and demonstrates what it means to be a good partner.

Classroom Partners, a program that places College of Liberal Arts students and staff as teacher’s aides, tutors, and mentors, has only grown at Murray Middle School thanks to the help and support of Principal Jamin McKenzie. In his time as principal, McKenzie has created and supported an environment that fosters positive identity development and critical consciousness. As the program expanded, from supporting a few science classrooms to placing volunteers throughout the school, it needed more resources. McKenzie brought in his leadership team to provide volunteer supervision and to offer training courses in racial justice and positive behavioral intervention. This integration of Classroom Partners with existing student support systems at the school creates an ideal two-way learning and support system, in which university students deepen their ties to their community, and Murray students are introduced to the university. In the scramble at the beginning of 2020 to create community-engaged learning opportunities for students, Jamin McKenzie made us a priority and was able to offer positions to 60 volunteers, many from Youth Studies, Family Social Studies, and Sociology departments.

Providing many students with their first professional reporting experience, The Pioneer Press has been inviting students into their newsroom teams for 21 years. Providing field-based practicum, The Pioneer Press assigns students to an editor who acts as a mentor during their time with the organization. The majority of the mentorship includes discussions on reporting topics every week with some mentors going above and beyond with additional topics such as finding court records or shadowing on complex stories.

The Pioneer Press is a wonderful place for students to get introduced to the reporting world due to its ethical, caring, and compassionate coverage within the community. The main goal of the program is to help students, who are becoming young professionals in the field of journalism, achieve personal and professional growth. As of now, The Pioneer Press has hosted 329 student internships with students from the Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication. With no signs of stopping, the organization has already invested more than half a million dollars into student work.
A long-standing partner with the English department, **Mixed Blood Theater** has provided students with a great opportunity for an internship. These internships include marketing for the theater, development, and communications. Despite the hardships faced by the group in 2020 due to the pandemic, they still worked towards being able to provide this opportunity and experience to English students at the university.

Also, in the past year, the group has had to find a new way to share their passion with the students and staff at the university. Their goal as a theater group for the past year was to share different perspectives of works and provide live theater shows to people who may not have had any other way to experience it. Out of work actors and actresses performed, virtually, texts and other course materials for classes. Both the readings and the post-performance discussions helped to facilitate a better understanding of the text. This experience not only introduced but fostered and increased cultural appreciation for live theater. Something to note about Mixed Blood Theater is that they share experiences from many cultures and backgrounds; this is all in line with their mission to address “injustices, inequities, and cultural collisions, providing a voice for the unheard…in the company's own Cedar Riverside neighborhood and beyond.”
Join Choir today! It’s not too late! There’s a place for everyone!

“Como Choir groups are a great place to make mistakes and learn with others, as well as from others!”

“It’s a fun experience that lets you explore your musical abilities and make new friends!”


“Scan me to sign up & audition!”

**Como Singers - Advanced All Voices / 10-12th grade**
Auditioned: sight-reading & song
Activities: Touring/Extra performances/Valegrams/etc.

**Tenor Bass Choir - Intermediate Lower voices / 10-12th grade**
Auditioned: just song and scale
Activities: combined performances with SA, BHM, etc.

**Soprano Alto Choir - Intermediate Higher Voices / 10-12th grade**
Auditioned: just song and scale
Activities: combined performances with TB, BHM, etc.

**Mixed Choir - Beginning All Voices / 10 - 12th grade**
Audition: None
Activities: 2 performances per year

**9th grade Mixed Choir - Beginning All Voices / 9th grade only**
Audition: None
Activities: 2 performances per year
Free Nutritious Meals For Kids 18 And Under

Only a click away, the Free Meals for Kids mobile app will help families and kids find free meals at schools and other sites across Minnesota.

**How it works:**
1. Download the Free Meals for Kids app to your cell phone.
2. Use the app to find the nearest site providing meals by GPS.
3. Click on the nearby site and use the Site Updates tab for more details.
4. Share the app with friends, neighbors and on social media.

Free Meals for Kids can be downloaded at Apple or Google Play app stores.

There are free meal sites across the state at schools and community locations. The app provides location, directions to the site and hours and days of operation. More sites are added daily. For more information: www.hungerimpactpartners.org.
Comida gratis para niños

Comidas escolares nutritivas gratuitas
Para niños de 18 años y menores

Con solo un clic entrará a la aplicación móvil Free Meals for Kids. La cual ayuda a las familias y a los niños a encontrar comidas gratuitas en las escuelas y otros sitios en todo Minnesota.

Cómo funciona:

1- Descargue la aplicación Free Meals for Kids en su teléfono celular.
2- Use la aplicación para encontrar el sitio más cercano que proporcione comidas por GPS.
3- Haga clic en el sitio cercano y use la pestaña de actualizaciones de sitios para obtener más detalles.
4- Comparta la aplicación con amigos, vecinos y en las redes sociales.

Las comidas gratuitas para niños se pueden descargar en las tiendas de aplicaciones de Apple o Google Play.

Hay sitios de comidas gratis en todo el estado. En escuelas, paradas de autobús, bibliotecas, centros comunitarios y parques. La aplicación proporciona ubicación e indicaciones para llegar al sitio, horas y días de entrega. Se agregan más sitios diariamente. Para más información: www.hungerimpactpartners.org