Spring is here!

March is a time for snow and mud on the playground! It's also time for Spring conferences and Spring cleaning. I'm trying out a new newsletter format to better share images and info with the community. Let me know if there is a topic you would like featured!

Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

Staff, students, and families in every SPPS school work together to create a place that is welcoming and respectful. Learn about positive school culture in the R & R Handbook online at [https://www.spps.org/Domain/1329](https://www.spps.org/Domain/1329).

Conferences

Families and teachers will be connecting next week to share social and academic growth and goals for the remainder of the year. This has been a one of kind school year with many changes and unknowns. Your child's well being and growth remain our priority! Conferences will be via google meet. Contact your child's teacher for schedule questions.

MCAs

MCAs are standardized tests required by Minnesota Department of Education. There have not been adjusts to testing plans for this school year. (Last year's tests were waived due to Covid 19).

MCA Details

The testing window for the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) is March 8-May 14. Chelsea students will take the MCAs the week of April 26. Make up tests will be scheduled the week of May 3. The purpose for the MCAs is to measure achievement towards meeting
the Minnesota Academic Standards and measure academic progress of students over time. At Chelsea Heights, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders participate in MCA Reading and Math Tests. The 5th graders also take a MCA Science Test. Parents/Guardians may refuse to have their student take the MCA tests. To opt out of statewide assessments, the parent/guardian must do one of two options:

- Print and complete attached form and return it to Chelsea
- Email attached form to maura.brink@spps.org and list: student first and last name, student number, test subject, and reason for refusal.

Deadline to submit refusal will be Friday, April 23.

According to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), ‘refusing to participate in statewide assessments may impact the school, district, and state’s efforts to equitably distribute resources and support student learning; for the purpose of school and district accountability calculations, your student will not be considered “proficient”.

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**Family Input Needed**

While some students are in the building and some are virtual learners, we remain one community. Due to distance learning and visitors not being allowed in the building at this time, it has been challenging to share what is happening and gather family perspective and feedback. As we reflect on our School Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP), your input is needed.

You can share input two ways:
1. Complete below linked google form
2. Attend my office hours during conferences on Thursday, March 25 anytime from 4:00-5:00 using google meet [https://meet.google.com/anw-fxuy-dmm](https://meet.google.com/anw-fxuy-dmm)

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[https://forms.gle/unE1viQHpUM...](https://forms.gle/unE1viQHpUM...)

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**A FEW MOMENTS IN THE BUILDING**
Kindergarteners in PE  
Science Experiment  
Student led morning announcements

**WELCOME NEW/RETURNING STAFF!**

With the transition to in person learning, we were able to hire additional staff. Happy to have each one of them as part of the Cheetah community!

Ms. Bernard, 3rd grade teacher  
Tonie Klaiber, special education teaching assisstant  
Ashley Muradian, Kindergarten teaching assisstant
Meal Boxes
You can order meal boxes here: https://www.spps.org/2021meals. Pick up is from 8:00 am - 9:00 am Fridays at Chelsea Heights, at Door 20.

Title 1 Information

Upcoming dates
Mark your calendar!

- Friday, 3/26 Conferences (no school for students)
- Friday, 4/2 Professional Development for staff (no school for students)
- Monday, April 5- Friday, April 9 = Spring Break