



Saint Paul
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



COMO PARK

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Jan 10, 2020 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

NCAA night

Jan 15 @6pm

No School- Martin Luther King Day

Jan 20

No School

Jan 24

Como Park Showcase

Jan 28th 5:30-7pm

Sports

Girls Basketball

1/10 Home v Harding @5:30P

1/17 Home v Highland Park @ 7pm

Boys Basketball

1/10 Away v Harding @7pm

1/14 Home v Washington @7pm

Wrestling

1/15 Home v Washington @6p

Gymnastics

1/15 Away v Highland @ Johnson @6p

Nordic Ski Boys and Girls

1/14 Away v Multiple Schools @ Theodore Park @ 3:45p

From the Principal

Como Park Community,

Thank you for helping to make this first half of the year a great start for our students and staff. It has been so exciting to see the eagerness in our students and great learning habits that have developed. I have been in many classrooms observing learning. Our teachers are planning for intentional, authentic, and meaningful lessons for ALL learners. I want to also thank you for your support and participation in your child's education and Como events thus far. There are many ways to support and they all are needed and important!

Stay up to date on your child's progress

With parent teacher conferences past us and 2nd quarter coming to an end, I want to remind parents of the tools for staying engaged with your child's academic progress. A great tool is [parent portal](#). This is a tool to access instant, online, timely and secure student information. Information includes grades, assignment completion by class, attendance, etc. To learn more about this tool and to sign up, please contact Sarita Arias-Avina through [email](#) or by calling 651-293-8800.

Staying in direct communication with your child's teachers is also recommended. Please utilize email to ask any direct questions that may arise about a particular class. Working together for learner success is necessary. Do not hesitate to contact us at anytime.

Lastly, ask your child! Please support your child in becoming advocates for their own education and academic success. Check their planner, discuss the information from the parent portal, have them utilize student portal, which provides the same information. As they progress through school, they will provide you the information you need in engaging them in their own academic success.

Gratitude

A special thanks to our parent volunteers who helped make conferences and the year's start a big success. Dinner, Como Booster Club, Como spirit wear sales, Parent Advisory Council participants, field trip chaperones, office support, classroom volunteers are all extra roles taken on that enriched the experience for all... THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!

In partnership,

Stacy Theien-Collins



Staff Highlights



Jonah Fields is a special education teacher serving students with Emotional and Behavior Disability (EBD) at the federal 1 and 2 level. The 2019- 20 school year will be his 14th year serving in the special education department at Como Park High School. Prior to teaching at Como Park High School, he served as a teaching assistant in the Learning Center at Webster Magnet (now Obama Service Learning School).

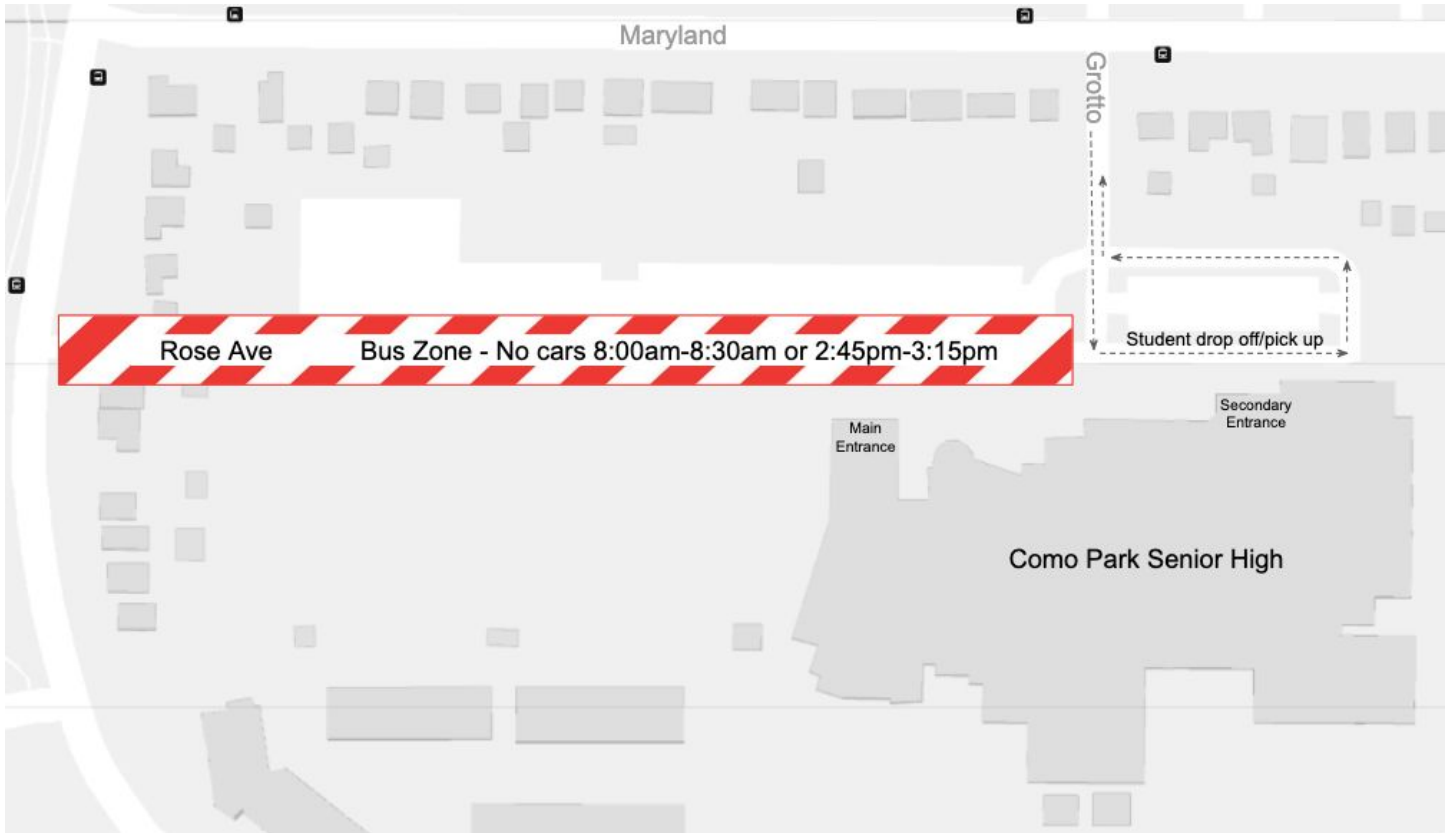
Additional, Coach Fields leads the boys soccer and girls golf programs. This fall as his 6th year as head soccer coach after serving six seasons as the junior varsity coach and one season as the C Team coach. This spring will be year 3 leading the Cougars girls golf program.

Jonah grew up in St. Paul and attended Highland Park Sr. High. He attended UW- Madison for his undergraduate degree, earning a BA in History and his Masters in Special Education at the University of St. Thomas.



Keep our students safe! No cars allowed on Rose Ave during bus loading/unloading times (8:00-8:30 and 2:45-3:15).

Please enter on Grotto if you are driving to Como during bus loading or unloading times.



Como Park Announcements

Booster Club -- Save the Dates!

- **Meetings:** Feb. 10, 2020; Apr. 6, 2020; May 4, 2020 (6:30-8:00 pm at CPHS)
- **Como Fundraiser:** Sun. Mar, 22, 2020 (3:00-7:00 pm at the Urban Growler)
- **Senior All Night Party:** Planning is under way for this party celebrating our Seniors following graduation in June 2020.

Saturday School here at Como HS

Attention Parents & Students

We have started Saturday school for students that arrive tardy to school consistently or continue to skip classes during the school day. We are notifying parents by a blackboard connect call and we will remind your child that Friday. Saturday school will be from 8:30-11am. There is no outside food! If students do not attend Saturday school they will be dismissed or will have to make up Saturday school the following week. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Sarita, Gail, or Ms. Pierce.

Thank you for your continued support!

Senior All-Night Party Planning Meeting

Tuesday, Nov 19, 6:30pm

Please meet in the high school Commons area.

Half of our planners left with their graduates last year so we could use some fresh faces to make those hard-hitting decisions like: When to serve the pizza? Crepe-paper or tinsel? How to organize the bag check? We have a solid template from years past but are always looking to improve. Also, we will need a new chair next year, so it is important for SOPHOMORE parents to get involved so there is SOMEONE to hand the reins to.

Here is an ideal schedule of involvement:

Sophomore parents - in training, help plan, and cover a shift at the party to get a feel for the action.

Junior parents - chair and organize party - primary volunteers at party.

Senior parents - phew! Hard part is over: assist new organizers and maybe cover a shift at the party if not enough junior parents sign up.

Questions? stepholson2@yahoo.com



Supporting Learning Through Vision Care: We are welcoming ChildSight-US, a service of Helen Keller International to Como Park High School on January 28,29,30 and February 4,5,6 in 2020.

This agency and staff will be here to conduct vision screening for Como Park students, grades 9 and 11.

There will be an Optometrist on site and those students who do not pass the initial screening will be seen by the optometrist. Students who need corrective lenses have the opportunity to select their frames for glasses which will be dispensed 2-3 weeks later --at no cost.

Passive consent forms were sent out with 1st Quarter report cards and vision screening/care will be done for all 9th and 11th grade students who did not decline this service.

Last year, about 190 learners received new prescription glasses to help them be successful in the classroom.

Any questions/concerns – please contact school nurse Lori Nakamura at 651-888-7614.



SHERIDAN AT COMO

We are now offering the Sheridan weekend food program here at Como Park. If you would like to sign up to become apart of this program, you can get an application in the main office and return to main office.

Como Park Booster Club

The Como Park Booster Club would like to invite any staff and parents to our meeting, Tuesday Nov 12th at 6:30-8:00 in the Counseling Conference room. Come learn about the amazing opportunities for supporting the students and staff at Como Park Senior High. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at comoparkboosterclub@gmail.com

Please consider supporting our Give to the Max day efforts. Use the link below to learn more.

<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Comoparkhighschoolboosterclub>



Stay up to date on good news and upcoming events - Follow Como Park High School on Twitter [ComoPark_HS](#)

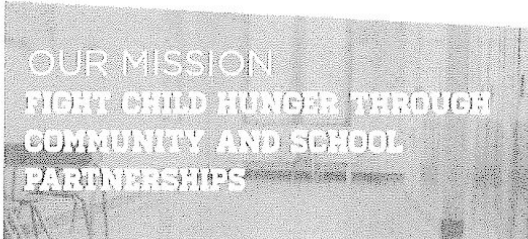


www.facebook.com/Como-Park-Senior-High-100564780025476/





Weekend Food Program Overview



The Sheridan Story is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to fight child hunger through community and school partnerships. We strive to make a difference in children's lives by specifically focusing on food gaps — the times when children aren't at school to access meal programs. The Sheridan Story supports families with programming over the weekends, summers, and extended school breaks.

- **Free for all families**
- **No qualifications required for enrollment**
- **The Sheridan Story does not collect information from families; privacy is protected**
- **Families may enroll in the program at any time throughout the school year**
- **Volunteers or school staff discreetly place food bags in students' backpacks each week, typically on Fridays**

Weekend Food Bag Options: Families may choose from five options structured around the USDA MyPlate standards. All bag types contain 4-5 pounds of nutritious, non-perishable food, including a variety of fruits, vegetables, proteins, grains, and soups/entrees. Bag types are identified by different colors of The Sheridan Story logo.



Blue Bag

Tailored for East African dietary preferences. This bag is pork free and may contain items such as tuna, spaghetti, black eyed peas, corn flour, fava beans, and tomato products.



Green Bag

This bag offers the widest variety of food items, such as chicken, tuna, pasta, rice, mac and cheese, chili/soup, and varied vegetables and fruits.



Orange Bag

Tailored for Latino dietary preferences. This bag may contain items such as rice, black beans, pinto beans, corn flour, fideo pasta, enchilada sauce, chipotles in adobo, and diced chiles.



Purple Bag

Tailored for Southeast Asian dietary preferences. This bag may contain items such as rice, rice noodles, coconut milk, bamboo shoots, curry paste, green beans, and mandarin oranges.



Yellow Bag

Contains all ready-to-eat items which require little or no preparation, such as dried fruit, tuna salad, chicken salad, sunflower seeds, granola, oatmeal, and soups.



The Counselor's Corner

NCAA Night has been postponed. New date will be announced soon.

Seniors, please continue to request your transcript to colleges through Naviance. If you have questions about your transcript, colleges, recommendation letters, or Naviance, please see Ms. Leedra in the CCC (Room 1403) or Ms. Thao (Room 1513).

Registration for 2020-2021 school year will begin in February! Start thinking about the classes you would like to take next year. More information will be sent out soon.

Please welcome, Kyle Johnson, who will be filling in as the 11th Grade counselor while Mrs. Rignell is out on Maternity leave thru Spring Break. He can be contacted at kyle.johnson3@spps.org if you need his assistance.

Please also welcome, Melissa Hansen, who will be filling in as the 12th Grade counselor while Mrs. Vang is out on Maternity leave thru Spring Break. She can be contacted at melissa.hansen@spps.org if you need any assistance.

WIDA ACCESS test for ELLs is coming up this month!

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 is an English language proficiency assessment for grades 1-12. This required test is administered every year to students identified as an English Language Learner until their scores meet the criteria to exit the language support program. THE TESTING WINDOW IS JANUARY 27TH-MARCH 20TH.

Prospective students for the 2020-2021 school year have been visiting Como throughout December and January, “shadowing” current students to see a day in the life of a Como student. If your student is interested in shadowing, contact Alexis Gray-Lawson who serves as a Parent Coordinator at alexis.gray@spps.org. Como’s Showcase Night, an open house to learn more about academic and extra-curricular activities at Como, will take place on January 28 beginning at 5:30 p.m. (see ad in *The Monitor*.)






COMO PARK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

*Como Park is currently accepting
students for Shadow/Tours*

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SIGNING UP
FOR OUR SHADOW/TOUR DAYS, PLEASE
REGISTER AT SPPS.ORG/VISITCOMO**

We are excited to welcome you!



Title 1 information

The Title I program provides supplemental educational services to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education. Title I helps schools provide world-class educational opportunities to all students.

Our Mission:

Recognizing the ability of all students to master challenging academic standards and the necessity of strong family involvement, Saint Paul Public Schools Office of Title I Federal Programs ensures increased and improved educational opportunities for all students. The Office Title I Federal Programs serves Public and Non Public schools with a high incidence of poverty, Homeless students, and those residing in Neglected and Delinquent Institutions by reducing barriers to learning, effectively communicating with parents, community and staff and by implementing Federal and State statute to achieve strategic goals.

PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW TEACHER AND PARAPROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act, parents have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals. Parents who would like to receive this information should write to the Human Resource Department, Attn: ESSA Teacher Qualifications, Saint Paul Public Schools, 360 Colborne Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102-3299. You have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teacher(s).

Information about whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;

Information about whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;

Information about whether the teacher is teaching (subjects or content) in which proper certification is held by the teacher.

Information about whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

More information and other languages available on the Como website spps.org/Domain/2335

Learn more about your Como's academic performance:

rc.education.state.mn.us/#mySchool/orgId--10625212000__p--3



