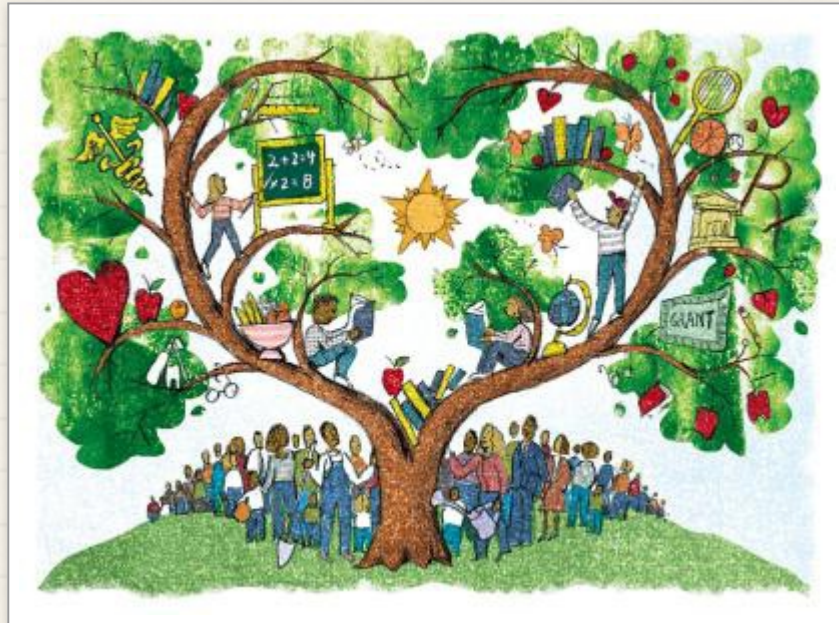


Principal's News

OCTOBER 3, 2022



A MESSAGE FROM DR. THERESA THAO-YANG

WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

Happy Fall!

I am so grateful to be a part of such a wonderful and welcoming community. I have loved getting to know your children, seeing them in the hallways and lunch room, and visiting their classrooms. It's hard to believe that a month has already gone by. In this past month, we have all learned so much together:

- community building and teamwork;
- routines, expectations, and procedures;
- the importance of expressing our emotions in healthy ways;
- mistakes are okay; what's important is that we learn from them; and
- we can all do hard things.



As we continue to learn and grow together, my door is always open. Thank you for your support and it's going to be a GREAT school year!

ATTENDANCE

Please make sure your child is arriving on time and attending school every day. Attendance is one of the most powerful predictors of academic achievement and having students at school on time and ready to learn will benefit them in their future success!

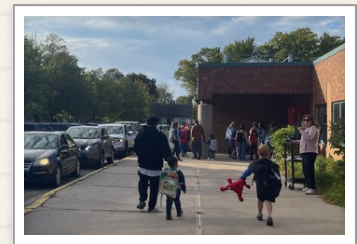
Missing 10 or more school days is considered chronic absenteeism, which is an early warning sign that students are at risk for not reading proficiently at the end of 3rd grade, struggling academically in middle school, and dropping out in high school.

We know that there are a wide variety of reasons that students are absent from school, from health concerns to transportation challenges. There are many people in our building prepared to help you if you or your student face challenges in getting to school regularly or on time. We promise to track attendance daily and to identify barriers and support available to overcome challenges you may face in helping your student attend school. Vacations will always be marked as unexcused.

Let's work together to make sure your child has great attendance and can get the most out of their learning opportunities this school year!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!

Please be reminded of the following when coming to school in the morning for **Morning Arrival**: now that students have had the time to get familiar with school and classroom routines, we ask that all parents who enter the school sign in at the front office and get a Visitor's badge/sticker with your name on it. This is for the safety of all students and staff.



Morning Drop Off

- Parents and child(ren) are to stay in the car until the school doors open at 9:15 a.m.
- Do NOT drop students in front of the school and leave them near the door. This is a very dangerous practice.
- Be kind to the staff who are charged with keeping all children safe. Follow all traffic laws and other directives by our staff in an effort to keep our students safe.
- Be patient. You may arrive for drop-off as early as 9 a.m. We will have teachers on duty at 9:15 a.m. to unload cars.
- Be prepared to have your child to exit the car quickly. Backpacks and school items should be in the car with your child. It takes a bit of time to get these items out of the trunk or rear hatch.
- Be safe. Please watch for pedestrians, especially our staff on duty! We are moving people and cars in "chunks" so there are fewer interruptions in the flow of cars and the flow of walkers.

- Due to safety of our staff, teachers are not authorized to direct street traffic. They are available to assist with sidewalk/pedestrian traffic only.

Dismissal

Our Dismissal Plan is designed with student safety in mind. Student are to be signed out by parents/guardians in the gym before being picked up. Any unexpected changes must be communicated immediately by phone to the office. Waiting until the last minute to communicate an unexpected change in dismissal increases the likelihood of failed communication and could result in a student being sent home the wrong way.

A MESSAGE FROM MS. STEPHANIE

Hello Nokomis Families,

Whether your student is returning to Nokomis this year or is brand new to our building, we would like to welcome everyone to another exciting school year! The month of September flew by incredibly quickly and it has been such a joy to have the kiddos back at school.

During your student's first month of school, they have met new classmates, participated in a new specialist class (art), and had the opportunity to meet our new principal, Ms. Theresa! Everyone has been hard at work growing their brains while maintaining a positive attitude.

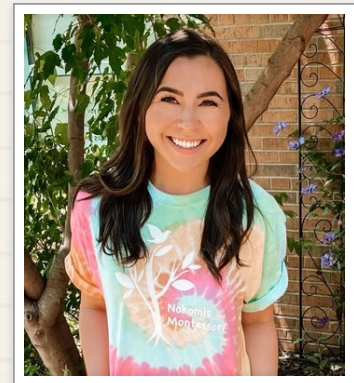
As the School Counselor, I create and implement a Core Counseling Curriculum that provides education, prevention and intervention activities, which are integrated into all aspects of children's lives. Our program teaches knowledge, attitudes and skills students need to acquire in academic, career and social emotional development, which serve as the foundation for future success.

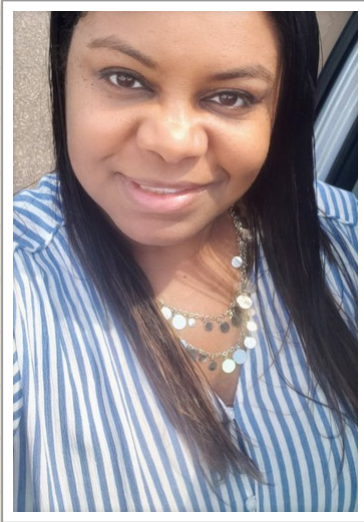
One of my favorite parts about our program is that I conduct bi-weekly classroom counseling lessons in all CH, E1, and E2 classrooms. The curriculum is devoted to Social Emotional Learning, Bullying Prevention, Personal Safety, and College and Career Readiness. During the first month of school, the counseling lesson objectives included: students will reflect on what and how students like to learn, feel good about learning at school, know that taking care of their feelings helps them learn, and believe that they can grow their brain in a way that is important to them.

Similar to years past, I will be meeting with students individually and in small groups throughout the school year as needed to strengthen Social Emotional skills. Any student can request to meet with me, or they can be referred by a teacher, administrator, or adult at home. Please email me at stephanie.sinjem@spps.org or call 651-744-1100 to request that I meet with your student for any assistance throughout the year.

I am beyond excited for another fantastic year with your wonderful kiddo(s)! Please let me know what I can do to make sure your student is thriving at Nokomis and has a successful school year.

Counselor Stephanie





A MESSAGE FROM MS. LYNNETTE

Hello Nokomis Family!

My name is Lynnette, and I am the new Gen Ed Social Worker at Nokomis. I am so excited to be a part of this wonderful community! I am half time so I will be sharing my time with Nokomis and another SPPS school. I am in the building every Monday & Wednesday as well as the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time by phone or text (612-568-3616).

I also wanted to share information about our **Project Reach and Fostering Connections programs**. Project REACH is an SPPS shelter and street-based program that promotes school stability and academic success of homeless children and youth. The program serves Pre-K and school-age children in temporary housing situations. The Fostering Connections program assists with the education stability of students placed in out-of-home or foster care. If you have any questions or think that you would qualify for either program, please contact me.


SAVE THE DATES!


- Oct. 5 - Picture Day
- Oct. 6 - PTO Walk-a-Thon
- Oct. 10 - PTO Meeting @ 5:30 pm
- Oct. 13 - Montessori Parent Education Night @ 5:30-6:30
- Oct. 20-21 - NO SCHOOL - MEA
- Oct. 27 - Fall Festival @ 5 pm
- Oct. 31 - NO SCHOOL - Conference Prep Day



ABOUT US

- Our school is based on the Montessori method: students learn at their own pace in multi-grade classrooms, independently cultivating their interests and natural abilities. Teachers help students choose their work in carefully prepared, peaceful environments; students use beautifully designed hands-on materials to practice and understand skills and concepts. Teachers are Montessori certified and use the Montessori philosophy to guide instruction.

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 spps.org/domain/15297