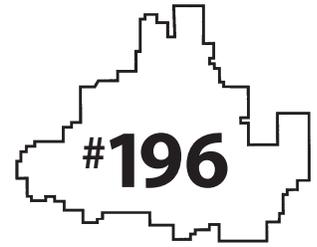


Back-to-School Issue

Spotlight



Fall 2016

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Dynamic learning with 1:1 access begins this year

Shortly after the school year begins in September, each student in grades 7, 8 and 9 will be issued a district-owned iPad Mini to use as a tool for their learning at school and home.

This is the first year of a three-year rollout of the district's learning and technology vision to provide a dynamic learning experience with 1:1 access for all students in grades 4-12. Grades 10, 11 and 12 will be added in fall 2017, followed by grades 4, 5 and 6 in fall 2018. Students in pre-K to grade 3 will also have increased access to technology in their classrooms, but not at a 1:1 ratio.

"As adults, we use technology every day to access information, communicate and complete tasks at work and home," said Director of Teaching and Learning **Steve Troen**. "That's the college- and career-ready world we are preparing our students to enter after graduation. To be ready, they need to be using technology

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Adventures in Learning

Health and wellness was the focus of this summer's Adventures in Learning program for elementary students who receive English Learner services. Students learned about wellness, body systems and physics by participating in dental workshops, yoga, basketball, soccer and Tae Kwon Do (pictured). Approximately 300 students attended the week-long program held at Rosemount Elementary School in June.

New elementary magnet schools share leadership and STEM themes

District 196 families now have five elementary magnet school options to choose from with the opening of Echo Park Elementary School of Leadership, Engineering and Technology in Burnsville and Oak Ridge Elementary School of Leadership, Environmental and Health Sciences in Eagan.

Echo Park and Oak Ridge are making the transition to theme-based magnets this year to improve racial balance at the schools and increase choice for all parents

in the district. Both schools were included in the magnet school enrollment lottery for this year.

Teachers and staff at Echo Park and Oak Ridge spent time last school year and this summer taking part in theme-based professional development to prepare for the transition to magnet schools with a focus on leadership and STEM skills.

Both schools were recently selected to receive grants from Leader.org to imple-

ment The Leader in Me, Franklin Covey's process for teaching 21st century leadership principles and skills. The Leader in Me teaches students responsibility, social etiquette, teamwork, communication, creative thinking and problem solving, as well as how to be self-reliant, take initiative, plan ahead, set and track goals, prioritize their time, express their viewpoint, resolve conflicts, find creative solutions and value differences.

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New elementary school site taking shape p.2

Students shine at speech and debate nationals p.5

Bolsoni is new principal at Apple Valley High p.6

New School Board member will start in September

A new School Board member will take the oath of office at the Sept. 12 regular board meeting.

That person will be one of seven who filed candidacy seeking election to serve the remaining term of **Rob Duchscher**, who was re-elected last November and resigned in March after moving out of the district. Duchscher's term runs through Jan. 6, 2020.

The special School Board election to fill the vacancy was held in conjunction with the statewide primary election on Aug. 9, after this issue of *Spotlight* went to press. Election results are available at District196.org.

The seven candidates are **Craig Angrimson** of Apple Valley, **Michael Atherley** of Rosemount, **Wendy Brekken** of Inver Grove Heights, **Christopher Dahling** of Rosemount, **Sachin Isaacs** of Burnsville, **John Millea** of Rosemount and **Rachel Wetzsteon** of Lakeville.

Duchscher served on the School Board for 16 years. He was first elected in 1999 and served as board chair six times during his tenure, most recently in 2015.

Independent School District 196

Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools

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Spotlight is a quarterly publication mailed to every household in District 196 to inform parents and other residents about district news.

Send comments on *Spotlight* to Tony.Taschner@District196.org

District 196 does not discriminate in employment or in any of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, familial status, membership or activity in a local human rights commission, disability, sexual orientation, age or genetic information. District 196 provides equal access to designated youth groups. The Director of Human Resources (651-423-7859) has been designated to respond to employment-related inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies. The Director of Elementary Education (651-423-7782) and the Director of Secondary Education (651-423-7712) have been designated to respond to student-related inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies. The Director of Special Education (651-423-7629) has been designated to respond to inquiries concerning the rights of a student with a disability. The mailing address for all directors is 3455 153rd Street W, Rosemount, MN 55068.



New elementary school site taking shape

Mining restoration work took place in July at the site of what will be the district's 19th elementary school on the southwest corner of County Road 46 and Diamond Path in Lakeville. The school is scheduled to open in fall 2017 in time for the start of the 2017-18 school year. This fall, a task force of district staff and parents will meet to develop a recommendation for reconfiguring existing attendance areas to establish an attendance area for the new school.

District recognized again for financial reporting

For the 14th year in a row, District 196 has earned the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO).

The certificate of excellence is the highest recognition of school district financial operations offered by ASBO, a professional organization with more than 6,000 members. The program reviews and critiques district accounting practices as represented in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Districts that meet or exceed the program's high standards for financial reporting and accountability

receive the certificate of excellence.

Fewer than 1,000 school districts nationally apply for the certificate of excellence each year based on the minimum criteria. The District 196 Finance Department has received the certificate in 14 of the 15 years it has applied.

This year's certificate of excellence recognizes the preparation and issuance of the district's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year 2015. The report is available at www.District196.org/district/departments/finance/ along with financial reports and annual budgets for the current and previous nine years

Si usted habla español y tiene preguntas, favor de llamar al teléfono (952)431-8993.

HADDI ADD SOMAAALI TAHAY OO AAD QABTID WAX SUAAL AH FADLAN LA SOO XIRIIR FAISAL MADAR (952)769-7625

إذا كنت تتكلم اللغة العربية و كانت لديك أسئلة حول المدرسة الرجاء الإتصال بفيصل مطر (Faisal Madar) و رقمه 769-7625 (952)

If you speak (Spanish/Somali/Arabic) and have questions, call...



Journey to college and career ready begins before kindergarten

By Jane K. Berenz, superintendent

My husband and I reached a parenting milestone earlier this year when the youngest of our four children graduated from Apple Valley High School. I vividly remember sending each of our children off for their first day of kindergarten – so much love and hope for their futures. They each had different abilities and needs entering school and yet – thanks to the many talented and caring adults who taught, coached and guided them along the way – each one graduated with the knowledge and skills to follow their dreams. That is our goal for every child in District 196 and the hope of all their parents.

We've all heard that today's students will have jobs that do not exist yet. Our charge as parents and educators is to prepare our children to navigate and adapt in the rapidly changing world in which we live. To be college and career ready by the time they graduate, today's students need to know how to think and solve problems, and it begins before their first day of kindergarten.

In addition to teaching important social skills, our preschool programs introduce foundational skills for reading and math that are aligned with learning standards and pave the road to college- and career-ready learning. Preschool helps students become familiar with the concept of school and prepares them to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

At the elementary level, our literacy collaborative model is preparing students by teaching them to use reading and writing as inquiry skills, to think critically about what they are reading instead of simply reciting words on a page without understanding or thinking about what they mean. Our educators help each child learn to be readers, writers, information literate thinkers, researchers, speakers and producers of new information. Literacy and

math coursework are supplemented with early intervention support and enrichment opportunities that encourage creative thinking and problem solving around learning standards. Writing is incorporated into all content areas in elementary school for a comprehensive learning experience.

Middle school brings with it new classmates, new schedules and new experiences on our students' journeys to becoming college and career ready. Students experience changes in the intellectual, physical, social and emotional areas of their lives. They need unique learning environments where they can mature, achieve success and be challenged at their own developmental rate.

Middle school builds on the skills students learned in elementary school and provides opportunities to explore new areas of interest that will help them make choices in high school. Students are challenged to explore, create and make decisions in their own learning during their middle school years.

High school students can explore their interests and imagine what they might want to do after graduation through a variety of courses and opportunities available in our district. Career Development courses give students a chance to learn about the work done in careers such as animal science, aviation, technology, forensic science, medical and health care, music production and vehicle services.

More and more students are not only ready for college when they graduate, they have already earned credits toward their degree. District 196 high schools offer a variety of options for earning college credit, including Honors and Advance Placement (AP) classes, concurrent enrollment programs like College in the Schools with the University of Minnesota, and the post-secondary enrollment options (PSEO) program where students attend a

local college.

High school mentorship programs offer students a chance to work alongside professionals in our community, giving them first-hand experience in different career options. This summer, several of our students had internships at Land O' Lakes, Thomson Reuters, Upton and the State of Minnesota. Several others participated in a summer training program with Genesys Works to prepare them for internships this school year.

Cocurricular opportunities are an important and meaningful part of a high school education along with strong academic offerings. Our district's triple A philosophy (academics, arts and athletics) has long contributed to a well-rounded educational experience by broadening students' horizons with activities ranging from instrumental, vocal and theater performances, to speech and debate tournaments, to robotics competitions and athletics.

Thank you to the businesses and organizations that partner with our schools to provide students opportunities that help prepare them for success after graduation. Thank you also to the voters of District 196 for supporting levy and bond referendums that provide needed staffing, space and equipment for our students to learn.

From preschool through high school, the teachers, administrators and support staff at all District 196 schools are working hard every day to help each child take the next step on their journey to college and career readiness and the dreams of their future. Have a great 2016-17 school year!

Jane K. Berenz

Program exposes African American young men to career options

This year, African American young men at all four District 196 high schools will be invited to apply for a program aimed at increasing their exposure to different careers and African American men who work in these careers.

Now in its second full year, the African American Male Mentorship Program targets students who have shown an increased interest in their grades and may be thinking about college after graduation. Participants make a visit about every six weeks to a business or government office, where they learn about the organization, the different jobs held by the people who work there and the education required to get those jobs.

"We want to create a vision for these young men from the classroom to the board room," says **Leon Tazel**, who founded The Tazel Institute in 2015 to offer the program in partnership with the district. "It's important for students to see people in the real world who are doing the things they might like to do someday. They need to know that the person up front in the suit wasn't always in a suit and they went through some of the same things they are going through."

Tazel himself grew up poor and without a father in Aliquippa, Penn., one of five children raised by their mother. With a couple of breaks along the way and through the grace of financial aid, Tazel said he was able to attend college and earned a degree from Slippery Rock University. After graduating, Tazel had a successful 18-year career in human resources with Time Warner Cable and since 2007 has been vice president, senior manager of employee relations for TCF Bank in Minneapolis, where he also lives.

The idea for starting the program

came to Tazel three years ago, sitting in the Juvenile Justice Center in Minneapolis while his daughter served as a witness in a criminal proceeding. "What I saw just blew my mind," he recalls. "It was a bunch of young African American boys being herded around like cats. The thing that really caught my eye is I saw no fathers. When we left, I told my daughter that I had to do something."

After first presenting the proposal in his home district, Tazel had a business meeting with Rosemount parent **Rev. Kelly Webb** and the idea came up in conversation. The two talked about it more after that first meeting and in September 2014 they met with representatives from the Washington County Attorney's Office, Bolander and Sons Construction Company and the Apple Valley Police Department to lay the foundation for the program.

The first visit was held in February



Leon Tazel

2015 and included about 20 ninth-grade students from Rosemount High School and Park High School in Cottage Grove. It was hosted by the Washington County Attorney's Office and featured an African American judge as the presenter. Some of the other visits have included the Apple Valley Police Department, Minneapolis Public Library, Bolander Construction, The Metropolitan Council and TCF Bank.

Students who participated in the program the first year were encouraged to continue last year and more students were added from Rosemount and Apple Valley high schools. This year, the program is being expanded to include students from Eagan, Eastview, East Ridge and Woodbury high schools. All totaled, Tazel said the program could be serving more than 160 students.

"If I save one kid from what I saw that day in juvenile court, this work will be worth it," Tazel says. "The whole thing is about getting a quality education and that they become positive participants in our economy. Your current circumstance does not dictate where you end up in the future. You get to grow up and be your own man. It's all about how you respond in life."

District 196 Foundation seeks board members

The District 196 Foundation Board of Directors is looking for motivated applicants to join them in carrying out the organization's mission to enhance educational opportunities and experiences for students attending District 196 schools.

This year, the foundation's goal is to raise money for additional students to participate in The Sheridan Story weekend food program and for books to provide

to children who are at the greatest risk of losing literacy skills during the summer.

The foundation board meets six times per year, every other month, starting at 6 p.m. at the District Office in Rosemount. To apply for a position on the board, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ocpx46z>. For more information, contact Director of Community Education **Khia Brown** at 651-423-7720.

Magnet schools

continued from front page

"Students, teachers, parents and others will feel a sense of inspiration from being a part of our leadership communities," says Echo Park Principal **Pam Haldeman**. "Echo Park and Oak Ridge are places of leaders in learning and life as we go through this transformational journey together."

Echo Park and Oak Ridge are both receiving additions to their buildings that will include classrooms and space to

support the leadership and STEM themes. The additions, along with entrance modifications that will be done at both schools to increase security, are part of the referendum approved in November 2015. Construction of these improvements will happen this year and will be ready to use in fall 2017.

The district's other three award-winning elementary magnet schools - Cedar Park STEM Elementary School, Diamond Path Elementary School of

International Studies and Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science - will also be receiving entrance modifications and additions that are scheduled to be complete in fall 2018. The additions at all five buildings are designed to increase capacity to allow more students to attend magnet schools and have fewer on waiting lists.

For information about magnet schools in District 196, go to www.District196.org/MagnetSchools/.

Apple Valley and Eagan top 10 again in speech and debate nationally

For the second year in a row, Apple Valley and Eagan high schools were two of the top 10 Schools of Outstanding Distinction at the National Speech and Debate Association tournament held June 12-17 in Salt Lake City.

The top 10 schools are determined by the number of rounds of competition their students complete in speech and debate events throughout the tournament. Each event started with more than 200 competitors.

Fifteen Apple Valley students qualified for the national tournament and 13 advanced to the elimination rounds, including three octofinalists (top 60) six quarterfinalists (top 30) one semifinalist (top 14), two finalists (top six) and one national champion.

Eagan had 19 students qualify and nine advanced to the elimination rounds, including four octofinalists, two semifinalists, two finalists and one national champion.

Eastview High School qualified seven students and four advanced to the elimination rounds, including two octofinalists, one quarterfinalist and one finalist.

Sarah Grambo of Apple Valley is the national champion in informative speaking and **Aekta Mouli** of Eagan earned the title in original oratory after taking third place at



Students from Apple Valley High School posed with their plaques and trophies following another top-10 finish for their school at the national tournament in Salt Lake City.

last year's national tournament.

Other national finalists from the district are **Mark Moran** of Eagan, fifth place in humorous interpretation; **Trevor Taylor** and **Cassandra Edlund** of Apple Valley, fifth in duo interpretation; **Ben Portzen** of Eagan in congressional debate, and **Pavi Guttipatti** of Eastview, who took fourth in the extemporaneous debate supplemental event. Semifinalists are **Rachel Standal** of Eagan, seventh place

in informative speaking; **Jackson Cobb** of Eagan, 10th in dramatic interpretation, and **Trinity Ek** of Apple Valley, 12th in informative speaking.

During this year's tournament, the oratory event was named after longtime Apple Valley coaches **Joe and Pam Cady Wycoff** in recognition of their many years of service to high school speech and debate at Apple Valley, the state and national level.

Dynamic learning

continued from front page

to access and analyze information, to collaborate and communicate with their classmates, and to problem-solve, innovate and create." Students will also learn digital citizenship skills on how to use technology safely and appropriately.

The vision for a dynamic learning experience with 1:1 access was developed by a district task force three years ago. Without funding to begin fully implementing the vision right away, the district recruited approximately 80 teachers who volunteered to teach 1:1 beta classes over the last two years. Troen said the purpose of the beta classes was to build greater capacity among a core group of teachers who can now help other teachers effectively use technology in a 1:1 classroom environment. Some of the beta teachers helped present workshops this summer that were attended by more than 500 teachers in grades 7, 8 and 9 as they prepare for the rollout of 1:1 access with

their students this fall.

Mark Aronson, a fifth-grade teacher at Diamond Path Elementary School of International Studies, was a 1:1 beta teacher for the last two years. He said the technology gets students more engaged in their learning and empowers them to create a learning environment that extends beyond the classroom walls. "The learning doesn't stop when the bell rings at the end of the day," Aronson said. "My students are constantly seeking out new information and are eager to share it with their peers. In that sense, the technology has created an even stronger culture of community in the classroom. The students feel connected to one another as learners and creators."

Funding for 1:1 access comes from the \$5 million per year, 10-year capital project levy that was part of the November 2015 referendum question approved by district voters.

There is no cost for students to

participate, but families may choose to purchase an optional protection plan offered by the district for \$20 per year. If purchased, the plan covers the cost of repair and replacement of the iPad if not purposely damaged or lost. Theft is covered with a police report. All district-owned devices can be tracked and disabled to reduce the likelihood of theft. If stolen, the iPad will continue to report to the district's management server if/when it is connected to Wi-Fi. Once that happens, the district is able to request the GPS location of the device.

The district will manage the iPads with Apple ID accounts created for each student when they receive their device. These accounts cannot be used in Apple's App or iTunes stores. Students will be able to choose apps in the District 196 app store, which offers age-appropriate, instructional apps only. In addition, web filtering that occurs in school will also be in place outside of school, regardless of where the device connects to Wi-Fi.

Bolsoni moves up to become principal at Apple Valley High School

Apple Valley High School has a new principal this year for only the fourth time in the school's 40-year history.

Assistant Principal **Michael Bolsoni** was selected for the job in early June and officially took over July 1. He replaces **Steve Degenaar**, who retired in June after a 31-year career in District 196, the last 17 as principal at Apple Valley.

Bolsoni has been part of the administrative team at Apple Valley High for the last five years. Since taking over as assistant principal in 2013, he has been instrumental in positioning Apple Valley to be the high school component of the district's STEM pathway of schools, which also includes Cedar Park Elementary STEM School, Echo Park Elementary School of Leadership, Engineering and Technology, and Valley Middle School of STEM. Bolsoni has also led implementation of Apple Valley's E3 STEM program the last two years. The program, which is funded by a \$3 million U.S. Department of Labor grant, has enabled the school to add a fabrication lab and is giving students expanded opportunities to explore STEM-

related career options.

"It is an exciting time to be at Apple Valley," Bolsoni said. "It is a STEM school dedicated to academics, arts and athletics. Apple Valley's legacy of success and achievement is strong and its future is bright with innovative programs and unique learning spaces such as our fab lab."

Prior to joining the staff at Apple Valley High, Bolsoni was a teacher peer leader for the district's Quality Compensation Program from 2007 to 2011 and was a teacher at the School of Environmental Studies for his first 11 years in the district.

Bolsoni has a bachelor's degree in history from Gustavus Adolphus College, a master's degree in education from the University of Minnesota and a specialist degree in educational leadership from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Apple Valley Athletic Director **Pete Buesguens** was subsequently hired to



On July 1, **Michael Bolsoni** became the fourth principal in Apple Valley High School's 40-year history. The previous three were **James Boesen**, **Gary Embretson** and, most recently, **Steve Degenaar**.

replace Bolsoni as assistant principal. Buesguens started as a teacher at Apple Valley in 1992 and had been the athletic director since 2008. Buesguens' replacement had not been hired when this issue of *Spotlight* went to press.

Task force will develop elementary attendance-area recommendation

A task force of parents and staff is scheduled to begin meeting in September to develop a recommendation for reconfiguring elementary school attendance areas in preparation for the opening of the district's 19th elementary school in fall 2017.

The task force will include two parent representatives from each of the six potentially impacted elementary schools and one parent each from Rosemount and Scott Highlands middle schools. The six elementary schools are Cedar Park, Diamond Path, Highland, Parkview, Rosemount and Shannon Park. The new elementary school will be located in what is now Parkview's attendance area. The other five elementary schools all border the Parkview attendance area.

Task force members are scheduled to meet four times in September to develop their recommendation. After that, there will be multiple opportunities for community input in October before the recommendation for attendance-area adjustments is presented to the board for action in November.

Food service news: meal prices increase 10 cents

School meal prices increase by 10 cents for breakfast and lunch this year to keep pace with increasing food costs, especially fruit, which is served at both meals under requirements of the federal Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act.

With the increase, breakfast is now \$1.45 for elementary students, \$1.60 for secondary students and \$2.05 for adults. Lunch prices are \$2.50 for elementary students, \$2.55 for middle school students, \$2.65 for high school students and \$3.70 for adults. The price for milk only remains 40 cents per carton.

Free Meals

Children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on federally established family income guidelines. Students who qualify based on reduced-price guidelines receive breakfast and lunch for free.

Families must apply for free school meals each year. For information about income guidelines and a link to the online application (available in English and Spanish) go to www.District196.org/District/Departments/FoodNutrition/.

All kindergarten students can also eat breakfast at school for free, regardless of income, and there is no need to apply. Funding for kindergarten breakfast is provided by the state.

Pay with FeePay

Parents are encouraged to use FeePay to add money to their children's meal accounts, check balances and purchases, and set alerts to receive email reminders if/when their balances are low. FeePay is available via the SchoolView portal, which parents access using a family account issued by their child's school.

Local Lunch Days

Locally grown foods will be served once a month this year, identified as "Local Lunch" on school menus. For the past few years, for example, students have been served corn-on-the-cob grown at Pahl's Market in Apple Valley. Information about local lunch days is regularly featured in the in the Food and Nutrition Services Department's monthly newsletter, *Nutrition News Flash*, available on the department website.

Forty-six students named All-State Musicians this year

Forty-six District 196 high school students were named All-State Musicians by the Minnesota Music Educators Association (MMEA) for the 2016-17 school year. These students, who were selected by recorded audition, participated in a summer camp and will perform at MMEA's annual conference in spring 2017.

Apple Valley High School students are **Tessa Lexa** and **Alexis Cairy**, Mixed Choir; **Elise Kuchera** and **Michayla Rowcliffe**, Women's Choir; **Ethan Elumba**, Men's Choir; **Rachel Scott**, **Megan Orzolek**, **Gavin Asmus**, **Emilia Galchutt** and **Sarah Grambo**, Symphonic Band; **Maria Larson**, **Kenan Lumantas**, **Kelly Zafra** and **Anna Watson**, Concert Band, and **Trevor O'Keefe**, **Chase Rapp** and **Jonah Bengtson**, Jazz Band.

Eagan High School students are **Alexis Roelke** and **Elizabeth Steenberg**, Symphonic Band; **Christopher Weinberger**, Concert Band; **Jonathan David**, Jazz Band; **Meg Swanson** and **Rachel Soukup**, Mixed Choir; **Lucas Andersen**, woodwind/brass/percussion alternate, and **Brianna Sexton**, vocal alternate.

Eastview High School students are **Maren Reimann**, Mixed Choir; **Isabella Huerta**, Women's Choir; **Alexander Do**, Men's Choir; **David Besonen** and **Molly Olander**, Jazz Band; **Xin Chen**, Symphonic Band; **Emma DesLauriers-Knop**, vocal alternate; **Aunya Mukherjee**, jazz alternate, and **Benji Johnson**, woodwind/brass/percussion alternate.

Rosemount High School students are **Matthew St. Ores** and **Ezekiel Town**, Men's Choir; **Ellie Bushard**, **Petra Holtz** and **Heather Wilharm**, Women's Choir; **Anna Scinto**, Mixed Choir; **Andrea Gordon** and **Vanessa Northway**, Symphonic Band; **Adam Shew**, **Adam Brehmer** and **Chase Ketterling**, Concert Band, and **Josh Van Sant**, Orchestra.

Did You Know?

Of the more than 750 high schools in Minnesota, all four District 196 high schools were ranked in the top 40 in US News and World Report's 2016 Best High Schools report.



The Dakota United Hawks players and coaches posed with their medals and trophy following the championship game of the adapted softball state tournament.

Dakota United Hawks win adapted softball title

The Dakota United Hawks won the physically impaired (PI) division of the adapted softball state tournament in June. The Hawks outlasted top-seeded Anoka-Hennepin 5-4 in the semifinal round and went on to defeat Rochester 13-7 in the championship game.

Members of the team are **Gigi Ayers**, **Jackson Bonley**, **Jack Cahn**, **Cooper Chelstrom**, **Anjaleek Conner**, **Hailey Douglas**, **Blake Jackson**, **Kyle Jackson**, **Kevin Johnson**, **Nick Kuefler**, **John Lyons**, **Edward Nelson**, **Grayson Nicolay**, **Ben Okke**, **Owen Olson**, **Kyra**

Patterson, **Edgar Rosas**, **Charles Schultz**, **Daniel Sonnenberg**, **Gabrielle Stahl**, **Braelyn Wiseman** and **Riley Wisniewski**, and student managers **Sam Back** and **Isle Johnson**. The head coach is **Brett Kosidowski** and assistant coaches are **Lantz Estep**, **Bryan Herzan** and **John Schmitz**.

The Dakota United Hawks adapted athletic programs are a cooperative sponsorship between the four high schools of District 196 and Hastings, Sibley, Simley and South St. Paul high schools.

Optional transportation service is \$275 per year

Optional transportation service is available for a fee to families whose children are not eligible for free transportation based on current service distances.

The annual cost is \$275 per student, with a \$550 family maximum. Families whose children qualify to receive free or reduced-price school meals receive the service for a discounted rate.

State law requires districts to provide transportation for students living two miles or more from their school and for students who receive special education services and require transportation as part of their individual education plan. Districts are allowed to charge a fee for any transportation provided within the two-mile minimum radius, except transportation for individuals with special needs.

District 196 offers better service than required by state law. The starting point



for elementary service is one mile from school and for middle school and high school service it is one and one-half miles. Students living within these distances from their schools are not eligible for free transportation service but have the option to purchase it.

For more information, visit the Transportation Department at District196.org or call 651-423-7685.

Congratulations!

A sampling of recent student and staff achievements throughout District 196

(The student and staff achievements noted below occurred at the end of the 2015-16 school year, after the summer issue of *Spotlight* went to press.)

Eagan High School seniors **Audrey Heinz, Ella Laurent** and **Kayla Ryan** were selected to receive Certificates for Superior Writing in the 2016 National Achievement Awards in Writing sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English. Of the 533 juniors nationwide who were nominated for the award by their schools' English teachers, 264 received Certificates of Superior Writing. Heinz, Laurent and Ryan were the only three students from Minnesota to earn the recognition this year.

The **Apple Valley High School trap shooting team** won the Class AAAA clay target league championship and qualified to compete in the Minnesota State High School League trap shooting state tournament in June.

The **Eagan High School boys' lacrosse team** took third place in the state tournament in June.

Aashish and Anshul Bharath of Rosemount High School advanced to the consolation championship of the boys' tennis doubles state tournament in June. **Maxim Zagrebelny** of Eagan High School advanced to the consolation championship in the singles competition.

Five girls and two boys from District 196 qualified for the Class AAA state golf tournaments in June. The top finisher among the girls was **Jessica Peterson** of Rosemount, in 42nd place, and **Jake Reller** of Eastview High School tied for 26th place in the boys' tournament.

Four girls and three boys from District 196 advanced to the finals in their events at the Class AA state track and field championships in June. In the girls' 100-meter hurdles, **Shae Buchman** of Rosemount High School finished in fourth place and **Natalie Windels** of Eagan High School was seventh. **Alexys Berger** of Rosemount finished eighth in the pole vault and **Arianna Passeri** of Rosemount was eighth in the triple jump. On the boys' side, **Darren Misiak** of Eastview High School finished sixth in the 100-meter dash, **Zaffer Hussein** of Rosemount was seventh in the 1,600-meter run and **Emmanuel Phoulom-Smith** of Eastview



Iron Maidens are STEM ambassadors

*In only their second year as a robotics team, Apple Valley High School's **Iron Maidens** won the Connect Award at the FIRST Tech Challenge world championships in St. Louis last spring. The Connect Award is given to the one team deemed to be the best at community outreach to promote STEM education for all. Members of the Iron Maidens (not all pictured) are **Emily DeBoard, Connie Knipe, Mumina Mohamed, Lul Mohamed, Marie Pena, Cori Roberts, Atalanta Stoeke** and **Barbara Tan**. Eagan High School's *The Q* is Silqent team finished in the top four and was a finalist for the Inspire Award and Eastview High School's *Cobalt Catalysts* also had a good showing at the world championships.*

took eighth place in the 300-meter hurdles.

The Eagan Rotary Club recognized the following teachers at Eagan schools last spring: **Mary Beck** of Black Hawk Middle School, **Eric Schmidt** of Dakota Hills Middle School, **Patricia Hoveland** of Deerwood Elementary School, **Steve Lonning** of Eagan High School, **Kathryn Anderberg** of Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science, **Sara Ligtenberg** of Northview Elementary School, **Beth Anderson** of Oak Ridge Elementary School, **Lori Murray** of

Pinewood Community School, **Magaly Miralles** of Red Pine Elementary School, **Kelly Groenewold** of Thomas Lake Elementary School and **Sanny Hermes** of Woodland Elementary School.

Northview Elementary School Food Service Manager **Gail Offerman** received the 2016 Innovation Award from the Minnesota School Nutrition Association for developing and implementing an electronic system that has streamlined the daily lunch count process for teachers.

Immunization requirements for students to attend school this fall

To enroll in child care, early childhood programs and school in Minnesota, children must show they have had the immunizations listed below or file a legal exemption. Parents may file a medical exemption signed by a health care provider or a conscientious objection signed by a parent/guardian and notarized.

This information must be on file with the school nurse before the first day of school on Sept. 6, 2016. Students will not be able to attend school until they have shown proof of vaccination or legal exemption.

To read the chart, find the child's age/grade level in one of the columns and read down to determine which immunizations are required and how many doses, shown by the number of check marks. Each column is meant to be read separately; do not add up the rows of checkmarks for each vaccine.

If you have questions, call the nurse at your child's school or call the district Health Services Coordinator **Deb Mehr** at 651-423-7909.

Birth to Age 4 (Early Childhood programs)	Ages 5-6 (Kindergarten) ①	Ages 7-11 (Grades 1-6)	Age 12 and older (Grades 7-12)
Hepatitis A √√	—	—	—
Hepatitis B √√√	Hepatitis B √√√	Hepatitis B √√√	Hepatitis B √√√ ⑥
DTaP/DT √√√√	DTaP/DT √√√√ ④	Tetanus and Diphtheria containing doses √√√	Tdap √ ⑦
Polio √√√	Polio √√√√ ⑤	Polio √√√	Polio √√√
MMR √	MMR √√	MMR √√	MMR √√
Hib √	—	—	Meningococcal √ and booster ⑧
Pneumococcal √√√√ ②	—	—	—
Varicella √ ③	Varicella √√ ③	Varicella √√ ③	Varicella √√ ③

- ① First graders who are 6 years old and younger must follow the polio and DTaP/DT schedules for kindergarten.
- ② Not required after 24 months.
- ③ If the child has already had chickenpox disease, varicella shots are not required. If the disease occurred after 2010, the child's doctor must sign a form.
- ④ Fifth shot of DTaP not needed if fourth was after age 4. Final dose of DTaP on or after age 4.
- ⑤ Fourth shot of polio not needed if third was after age 4. Final dose of polio on or after age 4.
- ⑥ An alternate two-shot schedule of hepatitis B may also be used for children age 11 through 15 years.
- ⑦ Proof of at least three doses of diphtheria and tetanus vaccination needed. If a child received Tdap between ages 7 and 10 another dose of Tdap is not needed. Td does not meet the Tdap requirement.
- ⑧ One dose is required beginning at grade 7. The booster dose is usually given at 16 years but timing depends on when the first dose was given.

Looking for records? For copies of your child's vaccination records, talk to your doctor or call the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) at 651-201-5503 or 1-800-657-3970.

Parents may deny release of directory information

Notice is hereby given that District 196, pursuant to the U.S. General Education Provisions Act and Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, declares the following as "directory information" as provided in said Act, and that information relating to students may be made public if said information is in any of the following categories:

- Student's name
- *9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade student's home address (for release to military recruiters and institutions of higher education only)
- *9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade student's home telephone number (for release to military recruiters and institutions of higher education only)
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Participation and performance in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Dates of attendance
- Enrollment status
- District-issued email address
- Grade level
- Degrees, honors, diplomas and awards received
- Honor roll
- School of attendance
- The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended
- Student identification (ID) number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by the student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems or displayed on a student ID badge
- Photographs and other video and

audio representations for school-approved publications, yearbooks, newspapers, public presentations, ID badges and publication on school-approved internet pages.

* *In accordance with the Minnesota Statute 13.01-13.09, Government Data Practices Act and Public Law 107-110 (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001) the district must release to military recruiting officers and institutions of higher education the names, addresses and home telephone numbers of students in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades within 60 days after the date of the request, unless parents or students refuse to release the information. Therefore, students' addresses and students' home telephone numbers are gathered only for 9th through 12th grade students, only for the purpose of providing the information to military recruiting officers and institutions of higher education.*

Directory information does not include identifying data which references religion, race, color, disability, social position or nationality.

Any parent or guardian of a student in the district, or any student 18 years of age or older, may notify the district of their desire that some or none of the above information is to be released without their consent by contacting their child's principal and completing Procedure 505.2.4.3P, Denial of Release of Directory and Yearbook Information. If filed, the denial remains in effect until it is modified or rescinded by the parent, guardian or eligible student.

If a parent chooses to deny the release of all directory information, their child will be excluded from such published lists as honor rolls, news releases regarding sports achievements, honors received, and athletic, theater and fine arts programs.

District obtains required criminal background checks

Minnesota school districts are required to notify parents annually about compliance with state law requiring school districts to perform criminal history background checks.

District 196 obtains criminal history checks on everyone offered employment in the district, as well as selected volunteers and independent contractors, including volunteer coaches (except enrolled students). In exercising its discretion with

respect to independent contractors and volunteers, the district considers such factors as the amount of student contact and the duration of the contact.

The district does not perform background checks on the staff or volunteers of outside clubs and organizations that offer activities for youth in the community that are not organized or operated by the district.

Nonresident students may apply to attend District 196 schools

Students living outside the district may apply to enroll in District 196 schools through the Minnesota Enrollment Options Program. Nonresident students are encouraged to apply to the district by Jan. 15 to be considered for enrollment in the following school year.

Nonresident applicants are also encouraged to request the school(s) they wish to attend. The district assigns transfer students to schools based on their preference and whether that school has space available. Students who are accepted under the Enrollment Options Program can remain in the district through grade 12, but will be assigned to schools that have space available.

For information on how to apply, call the district Student Information Office at 651-423-7644.

Bus stop information mailed and online

Postcards will be mailed beginning Aug. 22 to families of students eligible to receive transportation to and from school during the 2016-17 school year.

The postcard includes information on bus stop locations and pick-up/drop-off times. Parents and guardians who do not receive a postcard and believe their child is eligible to receive transportation can call the Transportation Department at 651-423-7685. The district also offers optional transportation service for a fee for students who do not qualify based on the current service distances; see the Transportation Department page at District196.org for more information.

Bus stop information is also available through the SchoolView parent portal, under the "Transportation" tab. This information is updated throughout the school year to reflect any changes to bus routes and stops.

Budget information and history available online

Budget information for the 2016-17 school year and previous nine years is available on the Finance Department page of District196.org. The preliminary budget for 2016-17 includes a 14-page introductory section that summarizes the district budget in a user-friendly format.

Parents, guardians and adult students can access educational records

District 196 schools maintain educational records on all students to help plan each student's educational program, communicate with parents/guardians and comply with state regulations. Student records include information such as standardized achievement and ability test data, grades, attendance records, health/medical records and evaluations by professional staff.

Except in limited circumstances authorized by law, most information from student records will not be released to members of the public without the written permission of the student's parent or guardian, or of the student if he or she is 18 or older. One exception, which permits disclosure of educational records without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff; a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to provide a service instead of using its own employees or officials

or an authorized volunteer. Legitimate educational interests include those directly related to the school official's professional responsibilities for classroom instruction, teaching, assessment and research, student achievement and progress, student discipline, student health or welfare, or other legitimate professional responsibilities.

District 196 forwards educational records (including disciplinary records) of students to other schools and school districts in which a student seeks or intends to enroll upon request of that school or school district. A parent, guardian or student who is age 18 years or older may request and receive a copy of the records which are transferred and may, pursuant to policy, challenge the accuracy of the records. The district does not, however, notify parent(s), guardian(s) or students age 18 or older prior to such transfer.

Parents(s) or guardian(s) of a student, or a student who is age 18 or older, may request to inspect and review any of the

student's educational records except those which are, by state or federal law, made confidential. The district will comply with the request immediately if possible and, if not, within 10 days exclusive of weekends and holidays. Copies of records may be obtained upon written request. A copying and handling fee will be charged.

A parent, guardian or student age 18 or older who believes that specific information in the student's educational records is inaccurate, misleading, incomplete or violates the privacy or other rights of the student, may request that the district amend the record in question. Challenges may be made by requesting and filing Procedure 505.2.11P, Request to Amend Educational Records, with the Director of Special Education.

Parents, guardians and students age 18 or older may submit written complaints of violation of rights accorded them by 20 USC Section 1232(g) to the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Dept. of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20202-5920.

Notice of pest control materials use in buildings

District 196 uses a licensed, professional pest control service for the prevention and control of rodents, insects, and other pests in and around the district's buildings. The program consists of:

- Inspection and monitoring to determine whether pests are present and whether any treatment is needed;
- Recommendations for maintenance and sanitation to help eliminate pests without the need for pest control materials;
- Utilization of non-chemical measures such as traps, caulking and screening, and
- Application of EPA-registered pest control materials when needed.

State law requires parents to be informed that the long-term health effects on children from the application of pesticides used by the district may not be fully

understood. All pest control materials are chosen and applied according to label directions per federal law.

An estimated schedule of interior pest control inspections and possible treatments is available for review at each school's main office and the Office of Health and Safety.

Parents may request to receive prior notice of each pesticide application. Additionally, parents may request to receive prior notification of any application of pest control material on a day different from the days specified in the schedule. Requests can be made to Health and Safety Supervisor **Christopher Pint** at 651-423-7735 or Christopher.Pint@District196.org.

(The above notice is published pursuant to Minnesota law, "Parents Right to Know Act.")

Homeschools required to report to district

Families living in District 196 who plan to homeschool their children for the 2016-17 school year must submit a yearly Full or Intent to Continue Report, as required by state law. The deadline to submit reports for 2016-17 is Oct. 1, 2016.

The report is available at www.District196.org/cewww/HomeSchool/index.cfm. Completed reports should be submitted to **Khia Brown**, director of Community Education, 15180 Canada Ave., Rosemount, MN 55068. For more information or to request a home school packet, call 651-423-7722.

District doesn't provide accident insurance

District 196 does not provide accident insurance for injuries that happen to students at school or during school activities. Parents who wish to have this type of accident protection are encouraged to contact an insurance company.

Did You Know?

An estimated 900 District 196 students live in "food insecurity," unsure where they will have their next meal. The Sheridan Story has funding to provide about half these students with a bag of food each weekend this school year. To learn more and donate, go to www.thesheridanstory.com/donate.

**Independent School District 196
Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools**

3455 153rd Street West
Rosemount, MN 55068

School Board

Jackie Magnuson, Chairperson
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ECFE Open House

Tuesday, Sept. 6
9-11 a.m. & 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Dakota Valley Learning Center
4679 144th St W, Apple Valley

Learn with your child!

Learn English and parenting skills while your child attends preschool in Family School. Parents and their preschool children will learn together and meet other parents and their young children at District 196 learning centers in Apple Valley. Family School meets Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to noon. Call **952-431-8316** to register. Visit **www.District196.org/abe** for more information or email **abe@District196.org**.

Relationships matter

As parents, we look for ways to support our children's learning and optimize their success. At the very heart of this goal is the parent-child relationship. The most basic of human interactions can build children's brains to be ready for all that is waiting to be explored. These interactions form the roots of children's future ability to form deep, lasting, happy relationships with others. Join an Early Childhood Family Education/ECFE class to help nurture your parent-child relationships! For more information on fall class offerings, go to **www.District196.org/ecfe**, email **ecfe@District196.org** or call **952-388-1950**.

Water safety for you and your little ones

Parents ... have fun in the pool with your little ones! Learn to help your child adjust to the water and develop safety awareness in Aqua Tots (parents and children ages 6 to 36 months) and Aqua Kids (parents and children ages 3 to 5). Swim lessons are conveniently located at middle school pools, Monday through Thursday evenings and during the day on the weekends beginning the week of September 19th. Visit **www.District196.org/swim**, email **aquatics@District196.org** or call **952-431-8777** for more information.

Be the best parent you can be

Does your child struggle with controlling his or her behavior, attention or emotions? Do you wonder what is going on in your child's brain? How do you respond when your child raises a concern about a social situation or when they appear to struggle with social interactions? Find out some best practice parenting tips and gain an understanding about the development of your child in these parenting classes:

- **Executive Functioning and Self-Regulation Skills: What They are and Why You Should Care** | Wed | Nov 16 | 6-8 pm | \$19 | Falcon Ridge Middle
- **What Everyone Should Know About Early Child Development and the Brain** | Wed | Oct 12 | 6-8 pm | \$19 | Falcon Ridge Middle
- **Fostering Healthy Social Skills** | Mon | Oct 3 | 6:30-8 pm | \$15 | Falcon Ridge Middle

These and more parenting classes are taught by local experts. CEUs are offered for licensure renewals. For more information and to register, visit **www.District196.org/ce** or call **651-423-7920**.

Do it together!

Check out these family activities this fall:

- **Family Yoga (parents and children grades K-5)** | Wed | Sept 14-Oct 26 | 5:45-6:45 pm | 6 ses | \$49 pair, \$24.50 add'l child | Dakota Ridge
 - **Painting Like Picasso (parents and children ages 5+)** | Sat | Nov 5 | 10 am-12 pm | \$39 | Dakota Valley
 - **Amazing Tots (parents and children 22 mos-3 yrs)** | Sept 22-Oct 27 | 9:20-9:50 am | 6 ses | \$55 | Apple Valley Community Center
 - **Key Log Rolling: A Traditional North Woods Pastime** | Sat | Sept 24 - Oct 1 | 1-2 pm | \$21 | Black Hawk Middle
 - **Unicycle (ages 6+)** | Wed | Sept 21-Nov 16 | 6:30-7:30 pm | 8 ses | \$25 | Pinewood
- There's much, more! Visit **www.District196.org/ce** or call **651-423-7920**.



Visit **www.District196.org/ce** for more!



Providing quality lifelong learning opportunities for all residents. • **www.District196.org/ce** • **651-423-7920** • 15180 Canada Avenue, Rosemount, MN 55068