

Cook County Schools - ISD #166



The Viking Voice

Monthly

April 2023

Welcome Mr. Belanger!



Please join us in welcoming Josh Belanger who will officially begin as Cook County Schools' new Principal on July 1st! Josh, his partner Katie, and their two elementary-aged children are excited to move to Cook County and become engaged members of the community. Josh is currently serving as an Assistant Principal at Coon Rapids High School after 17 years of teaching special education and serving as a teacher leader and coach in Anoka High School, Coon Rapids High School, and Benilde-St. Margaret's. Josh has already spent a day in Cook County Schools meeting students and getting to know some of the staff, and he intends to be back at least once more before the end of the year. Welcome to the Cook County community Belanger family! ~Superintendent Lindholm

Cook County School Families,

Welcome back to a Snowy Spring! During this month we will be practicing and learning more about how to be TRUSTWORTHY! This is a great opportunity to have conversations with our students on how to follow through on commitments, the importance of honesty and telling the truth and doing the right thing and acting with integrity.

Due to the snow day on March 22nd there will be school on Monday, APRIL 10th. Please continue to check our school website and social media posts for updates and information.

April is a busy month. Spring Sports will start competing, our Knowledge Bowl will be going to State, and we have less than a Quarter of the school year remaining. During the month of April we are...

- ~ Completing our SPRING round of NWEA testing and MCA testing
- ~ Starting our enrollment process for the 2023-2024 school year
- ~ Seniors are planning for graduation and filling out scholarships due
- ~ Planning our Awards and Graduation ceremonies

I am looking forward to closing the school year STRONG and encouraging our students and staff to be dedicated to teaching and learning. Thank you for your continued support of our programs and our students!

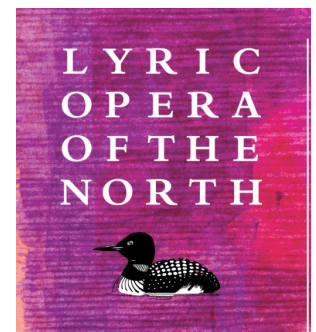
Your Proud Principal,
Megan Myers
PK-12 Principal



We continue to have job opportunities here at Cook County Schools. You can find out more information on the website, www.cookcountyschools.org.



Sawtooth Mountain Elementary News



On March 6, 2023, the Little Lyric Opera of the North came and performed a student adaptation of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance" for Sawtooth students, families, and friends. Sixteen second grade students were given the opportunity to perform with the professional troupe and the result was very entertaining. Special thanks to the North Shore Collaborative for providing the funds to make this possible. Their funding also allowed for "classroom chats" so that students could interact with cast members in an informal and intimate setting.



Oshki Ogimaag Charter School and Sawtooth Mountain Elementary Third Graders recently met at the North House Folk School. During three morning sessions Susan Ferguson, Karl Koster, Ileana Hansel and the North House Folk School Interns shared their knowledge about the local area history of the fur trade, birchbark canoes, and the importance of taking care of our watersheds. The students used small rasp planers and different grits of sandpaper to "carve" their individual wooden model of a Paddle-to-the-Sea. Miigwech to the friends and family members who were able to attend as chaperones.



Sawtooth Mountain Elementary News



SAWTOOTH MOUNTAIN
ELEMENTARY PRESENTS:

KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP DAY

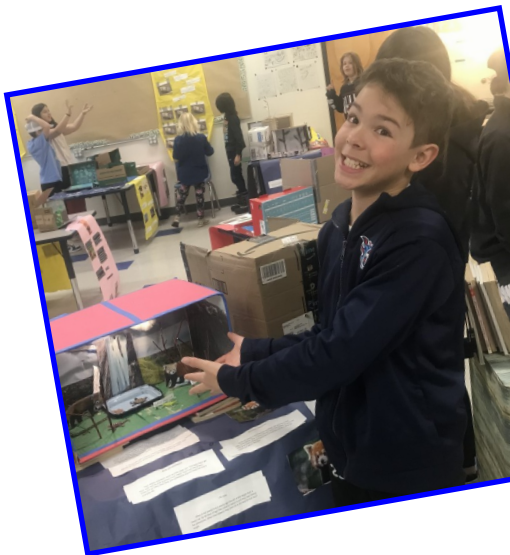
FRIDAY, MAY 5TH 8:15-10:45 OR 12:30-3:05

Children come for the morning or afternoon and stay at school (without parents). During the Round Up Day, they will participate in many kindergarten activities, ride a school bus and more! If your child is in preschool we will support the transition to and from Round Up.

SCAN OR CLICK THE
QR CODE TO SIGN UP



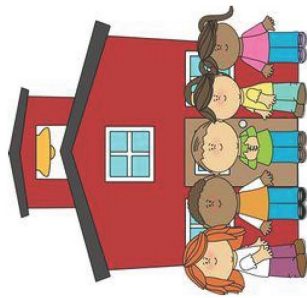
Questions? email
ismith@isd166.org or
ahood@isd166.org



The Fourth and Fifth grade students chose an animal to study for Science class! They created a poster with information about their animal and built replica habitats for their animals. They used paint, glue, construction paper, cardboard, and magazines to construct their habitats. After the completion of the project, they hosted a museum for the Second grade students and acted as museum curators to share all that they learned with the Second grade students.

Sawtooth Mountain Elementary

2023-2024 Kindergarten Information



Kindergarten Classroom Play Date: Wednesday, March 22nd, 4:15-5:30 PM
Come play in the kindergarten classrooms! Children will be supervised while families are on the tour. Please plan to enter through the Main Entrance and follow the signs to the kindergarten classrooms. Please RSVP for the playdate via email to lsmith@isd166.org or ahood@isd166.org by Friday, March 17th, to ensure that we have enough staff for supervision. Include children's names and ages in the email.

School Tour: Wednesday, March 22nd, 4:30-5:30 PM

The tour will be led by the current kindergarten teachers and will start at the kindergarten classrooms. During the tour you will hear about the excellent education your child will receive at Sawtooth Mountain Elementary School. It will include information about our small class sizes, aligned curriculums for mathematics, reading, writing and language arts, our licensed specialist teachers, our elementary library, our use of technology to enhance instruction, our school garden, and our school forest trail systems. No RSVP necessary.

Kindergarten Registration Night: Tuesday, April 4th 3:30-6:00

Preschool and Kindergarten will be hosting a registration night in the school cafeteria. No appointment necessary, bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, immunization records and picture ID. Kindergarten teachers will be available to answer questions. Please plan to enter through the main entrance.

Round Up Day: Friday, May 5th 8:10-10:45 AM and 12:30-3:05 PM

Children come for the morning or afternoon and stay at school (without parents). Students may ride the bus with a sibling. Children will participate in many kindergarten activities, ride a school bus and more! If your child is in preschool we will support the transition to and from the event. Please use this link or QR code to sign up for the session that works for your family. <https://bit.ly/Round-up2023>



Summer Play Date: Wednesday, August 23rd 3:15-4:15

Come start the year off right with a chance to connect with other students and families on the Sawtooth Playground. In case of rain, we will post our alternate location on the door by the playground.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Lacey Smith at 387-2271 x455; lsmith@isd166.org or Autumn Hood; at 387-2271 ext 457; ahood@isd166.org

Sawtooth Mountain Elementary School

101 West 5th Street-Grand Marais, MN 55604 - (218)387-2271

www.cookcountyschools.org

ISD 166 PTA Presents 2023 Special Lunches!

The PTA invites you to enjoy some quality time with your student by joining them for a school lunch! Please see below for class dates, times, and meal costs. We welcome any and all family members, guardians, or family friends to attend.

5th Grade: **Wednesday, April 5th at 12:15 pm.**

4th Grade: **Wednesday, April 12th at 12:15 pm.**

3rd Grade: **Wednesday, April 19th at 12:15 pm.**

2nd Grade: **Wednesday, April 26th at 12:15 pm.**

1st Grade: **Wednesday, May 3rd at 12:15 pm.**

Kindergarten: **Wednesday, May 10th at 12:15 pm.**



Lunch will be held in the Sawtooth Cafeteria. Payment can be made the day of by cash, check (payable to ISD 166), or deduction from your student's lunch account. RSVP is not required for this event.

Adult Lunch: \$4.55

Child Lunch: \$2.65 (if other siblings are coming)

Sack lunches are welcome if preferred.

See You There!



MSHS News



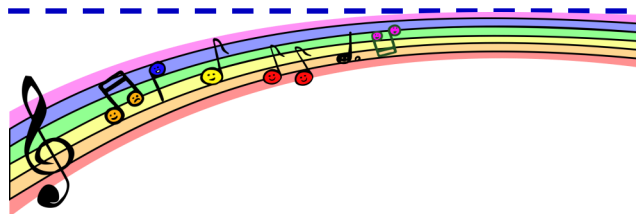
CCHS Knowledge Bowl took home the NE Minnesota Section Championship on March 15th! They are headed to the State Finals on April 13. Go Vikings!



Congrats to the three CCHS participants in the Western High School Downhill Ski Championship in Bend, Oregon!



CCHS students Katie Peck and Hattie Crotteau are Softball Practice Players of the Week!



Please take note of the following musical performances!

The Sawtooth Elementary Choir & Band Concert will be April 28th, 2pm, in the ACA~families invited!

***MSHS Band Concert will be May 2nd!
6th & 7th Grades to perform at 7pm
8th-12 Grades to perform at 8pm***



MSHS News



The MSHS Choir had two March performances, on March 9th for the Education Foundation, and on March 21st for the North Shore Care Center. The songs performed included "the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" featuring two soloists, Zion Hartley and Leah Belmore. Aubrey Williams sang her solo part in "There's Always Tomorrow."



The Grand Marais Playhouse presents

Alice in Wonderland.

Starring: **Kylie Viren, Rowan Lindholm, Tina Hegg-Raway, Aria Fitzgerald-Wells, Naomi Tracy Hegg, Juniper Cefalu, Maggie Gatzke, Kevin Kager, Payton Quaife, Aurora Gallagher, and Aubrey Williams.** The play is directed and designed by Sue Hennessy.

Alice in Wonderland opens Saturday, April 15 and plays weekends through April 23. Thursdays - Saturdays at 7 PM and Sundays at 2 PM. Sunday, April 16 will be donation at the door performance. Tickets will be on sale now! At grandmaraisplayhouse.com



MSHS News



CCHS & CCHE
PRESENTS



2023

Job Fair & Career Expo

Start
planning for
your future
today!

FRIDAY APRIL 14TH, 2023
12:00-3:00PM FOR ALL
INTERESTED

CCHS GYM
101 WEST 5TH ST
GRAND MARAIS, MN
55604

When it comes to your career, you
should always be certain. Drop by
any of the 30+ booths to get career
advice, job placement or
internships!



COOK COUNTY
HIGHER EDUCATION
EDUCATION WHERE YOU LIVE

Cook County High School is hosting a Job Fair and Career Expo on Friday April 14th from 12:00pm-3:00pm.

This year, instead of having two separate events for college and job fairs, we are combining the events! The Expo will combine college and university program coordinators with career representatives and local businesses spanning many career interests! Last year we had around 30 career fields and colleges attend. This year we will be joined by 70+ participants, along with William Kelley High School students from Silver Bay. The event will be available to grades 3-12 as we had a great turnout and responses from these grades last year! The event is also open to the public and will be located in the Pam Taylor Gymnasium.

Community Events

**COOK COUNTY SCHOOL PRESENTS:
SAWTOOTH MOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY
PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION NIGHT**

APRIL 4TH 3:30-6:00PM
COME ANYTIME
NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED
**LOCATION: COOK COUNTY
SCHOOLS CAFETERIA**
(101 W 5TH ST GRAND MARAIS, MN 55604)
(MUST BE 3, 4 OR 5 BY SEPTEMBER 1ST)

WHAT TO BRING COPIES OF:

- CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- IMMUNIZATION RECORD
- PICTURE ID (ONLY LEGAL GUARDIANS CAN REGISTER A CHILD FOR SCHOOL)

Cook County ECFE presents:

Daddy Play Date

Dad's are formed through many connections. It could be grandpa-dad, step-dad, mentor-dad, etc. All are welcome!

Join us for a hands on activity and healthy snack. Some activity previews: bird house building, tie-dye, DIY projects, and scavenger hunts. Please join us for a fun time dedicated to just dad's and their children.

**Cook County Community Center
Log Cabin**

April 8, May 13th, June 10th, July 8th, August 12th
11:00am-12:00pm
\$5 at the door to cover supply costs
Children's age focus is 2-5 years old

SPONSORED BY
Cook County
Kids Plus

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH
TIME 10:00AM SHARP!
**IT HAPPENS FAST AND WILL BE
OVER IN 5 MINUTES!**

REC PARK
(IN COMMUNITY CAMP GROUND, DRIVE
TO THE END OF THE ROAD)
**114 S 8TH AVE W GRAND MARAIS, MN
55604**

playhouse GRAND MARAIS

Summer Theater Camp

June 12 -22, 2023
M- TH 10 - 4pm
For Ages 10- 17

Register at
grandmaraisplayhouse.com

at the
Arrowhead Center for the Arts

Community Events



2nd ANNUAL EARTH DAY FAIR APRIL 22nd

Cook County Community Center | 11am-3pm | Free Entry

Join your community for a fun day celebrating our environment together at the Cook County Community Center. Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 22nd at 11 am to 3 pm at the Cook County Community Center.

Educational speaker series, interactive booths, family friendly games & activities, live music, and food for purchase from SHOOK Smoothies, Crooked Spoon, and Crosby Bakery.

Our focus is to nurture sustainable individual and community action in a supportive atmosphere to cultivate change, inclusivity, equity, and resilient living for Cook County while also having a LOT OF FUN!

The Speaker Series will be recorded for your convenience. Organized by the Cook County Local Energy Project, Zero Waste Cook County, MNIPL Climate Action Team and Cook County Higher Ed.

Many opportunities to help and participate! Host an interactive education table, share your wisdom and knowledge as a speaker, sell your homemade local items, or run a game/ activity booth!

Sign up : [Vendor & Booth Registration Form](#)

Join our dynamic volunteer team! Signup: [Earth Day Fair Signup Genius](#)

Donations welcome - [Paypal](#)

Low- waste event: Please consider bringing your own water bottles. All items will be compostable, recyclable or reusable as we strive to create as little landfill waste as possible. Thanks in advance for your help!

Community Events/Announcements



EXPLORERS CLUB

We are excited to announce that Explorers Club summer 2023 registration will open April 19th at 6:00 pm. Explorers Club is a summer outdoor adventure program for kids ages 6 -11. It will run Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm throughout the summer beginning 6/13 and going through 8/23. Drop off and pick up is at the First Congregational Church located at 300 West 2nd Street in Grand Marais. Our goal is to have kids outside and active as much as possible and exploring the beauty that Cook County has to offer. Activities include hiking, paddle boarding, Hjordis rides, and river walks. The fee is \$42 per day per child.

If you would like to receive registration information, please email explorers.club.fcc@gmail.com.



**BE A ROLE
MODEL
THIS
SUMMER**

NOW HIRING

Day Camp Counselors lead fun, outdoor activities and support learning and development in youth ages K-5th grade.

- Free Family YMCA Membership
- \$20/hour
- No weekends, Monday-Friday shifts
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Holidays off



Apply today!

Make a positive impact in your community!

Apply today or contact Emily Marshall at emarsall@cookcountnymca.org, 218-387-3386 x506.



Girls on the Run is for
EVERY girl.



**Girls on the Run is an
afterschool program like
no other!**

Twice per week for 8 weeks, girls will have fun, make friends, increase their physical activity levels and learn important life skills. Trained and caring coaches lead 3rd - 5th-grade girls through interactive lessons and movement activities. The season ends with a celebratory 5K event.



Why it matters
It's fun. It's effective.

Participating in Girls on the Run transforms girls' lives by helping them increase their self-confidence, develop healthy relationships, and feel good about themselves, inside and out.



Girls who were the least active at the start of the program increased their physical activity by more than 40%*



97% of participants said they learned critical skills to manage emotions, resolve conflict, help others or make intentional decisions*

*Results based on an independent study conducted by Positive Youth Development expert Maureen R. Weiss, Ph.D.

COOK COUNTY DETAILS

Registration opens: February 1

Program Starts: April 4

Practices: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30-5:00

Location: Great Expectation School

5K: Sunday, June 4 in Duluth (tentative)

Program Fee: \$175

Financial Assistance available

Learn more and register today at www.gotrmn.org

Calendar

April 2022

Monday, April 3rd-Thursday, April 6
North House Folk School—High School

Tuesday, April 4th
Art Colony—Kinder, 1st & 2nd Grades
Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Night 3:30-6pm

Thursday, April 6th
Local Scholarships Due

Friday, April 7th
Teacher PDD, NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Monday, April 10th
CALENDAR CHANGESCHOOL IN SESSION**B2 Day

Tuesday, April 11th
Softball Home vs. South Ridge

Thursday, April 13th
Softball Home vs. MLWR

Friday, April 14th
Baseball @ Mesabi East
Job and Career Fair, Pam Taylor Gym 12-3pm

Saturday, April 15th
ACT Test
"Alice in Wonderland"—ACA 7pm

Sunday, April 16th
"Alice in Wonderland"—ACA 2pm

Monday, April 17th
Baseball Home vs. MIB

Tuesday, April 18th
Baseball Home vs Esko
Softball Home vs Esko
Track @ MLWR

Thursday, April 20th
"Alice in Wonderland"—ACA 7pm
Baseball Home vs Two Harbors
Softball Home vs Two Harbors

Friday, April 21st
"Alice in Wonderland"—ACA 7pm
Softball @ East Central

Saturday, April 22nd
"Alice in Wonderland"—ACA 7pm

Sunday, April 23rd
"Alice in Wonderland"—ACA 2pm

Tuesday, April 25th-Thursday, April 27th
North House Folk School—4th Grade

Tuesday, April 25th
Track @ Two Harbors

Thursday, April 27th
Baseball @ Barnum
Softball @ Barnum

Friday, April 28th
Elementary Music Recital, Kinder-5th grades—ACA 2pm
Baseball Home vs NE Range
Softball Home vs NE Range
Track @ Esko

Saturday, May 6th
Date ChangePROM

Did you know?

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) provides eligible households a discount of up to \$30 per month off their internet bills (or up to \$75 per month for households living on Tribal lands), as well as a one-time discount of up to \$100 off an eligible connected device like a laptop, desktop computer or tablet.

This announcement serves as a reminder that a household is eligible to participate in the ACP if a child in the household receives free or reduced-price school meals. Therefore, under the ACP rules, **every household with a child attending a school participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program is eligible for ACP benefits.**

Households can learn more and apply for the ACP at [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov).

Due to a snow day in March, April 10th has been rescheduled as a **SCHOOL DAY (B day for MSHS)** Please send your student to school on Monday, April 10th!



Thursday May 4th is Walk & Bike to School Day!
Encourage your child or neighbor to walk or bike to school! To learn more about the Minnesota Safe Routes to School program, visit:
<http://www.mnsaferoutestoschool.org>

April 2023 Menus

ISD 166 2023 APRIL MENU

Breakfast is a choice of: Breakfast Sandwich, Muffin, Cereal, PBJ, Yogurt, Cheese Stick, Fruit or Juice, Milk
Daily choice of Soup and Sandwich or Salad bar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Sloppy Joes Fries Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	4 Pancakes, Sausage, Hash Browns Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	5 Mac & Cheese Popcorn Chicken Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	6 Mashed Potatoes & Chicken Gravy Dinner Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	7 NO SCHOOL
10 Chicken Burger Fries Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	11 Burrito Bowl Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	12 Penne Pasta in Meat Sauce Bread Stick Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	13 Corn Dogs Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	14 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk
17 Cheese Burger Fries Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	18 Tacos Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	19 Orange Chicken on Rice Roasted Broccoli Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	20 Pulled Pork Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Dinner Roll Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	21 Pizza Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk
24 Pulled Pork Sandwich Fries Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	25 Nachos Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	26 Chicken Alfredo on Penne Pasta Bread Stick Roasted Broccoli Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	27 Cheese Bread with Marinara Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	28 Hot Dogs Baked Beans Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk

Menu Subject to Change

April 2023 Menus

ISD 166 2023 APRIL Alternate Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Corn Dogs Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	4 Quesadillas Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	5 Cheese Bread Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	6 Cheese Pizza Bagel Bites Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	7 NO SCHOOL
10 Cooks Choice Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	11 Quesadillas Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	12 Corn Dogs Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	13 Pizza Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	14 Cheese Bread Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk
17 Corn Dogs Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	18 Quesadillas Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	19 Cheese Bread Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	20 Cheese Pizza Bagel Bites Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	21 Chicken Nuggets Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk
24 Chicken Tenders Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	25 Quesadillas Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	26 Cheese Bread Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	27 Pizza Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk	28 Chicken Nuggets Fruit and Veggie Bar Milk

Menu Subject to Change