



# NEW HEIGHTS SCHOOL

Academics • Balance • Citizenship  
*The Power of Choice*

October 2021

## Based on Principal

As I write this first newsletter of the academic year, I realize it is the last day of the 5th week of school. I'm not sure where the time went, but I suppose the time is flying by because we, as members of an unsettled society, have many things that we are continuing to deal with, including the complexities of how to offer a safe school experience amidst all that is happening. That said, we are mostly satisfied with the energy our students are bringing into the school each day. It seems clear that most of our students are glad to be back and appreciate the chance to attend in-person learning as opposed to the distance learning mode we were forced into over portions of the last two years. That said, I need to ask parents to be a partner to the school by reinforcing a few key core values with your children so that they come to the school mentally and physically ready for the challenges and learning opportunities they will be given by our teaching staff each day.

First, we ask that parents help to ensure that your children have the structure in place that allows them to be well-rested each day before coming to school. Students who get 8 hours or more of sleep each night will be sufficiently rested enough to come to school with the energy, alertness and focus needed to be successful in class each hour and each day.

Next, we ask that parents continue to work with their children about boundaries and civility, simply meaning that school exists for a purpose; which is to assist our young people in acquiring knowledge and skills necessary for adult life. In order to achieve that goal, we need our students to come to school ready and willing to be courteous to those around them, and also to be respectful of the property of the school and of their peers.

Finally, we ask parents to guide their children to understand that getting an education is not really a privilege or even a choice, it is much more a civic duty or responsibility. Public schools are put in place by the government to ensure that our young people will eventually acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills needed to become productive members of the workforce. It is through the workforce that our society continues to be self-sustaining and prosperous. It seems that, for some, school is incidental or maybe even annoying. We will do better to help our children and students understand that the key to our success as people and as a nation is that we all do our part and make our contributions where we can. For kids, that means going to school and being appropriately engaged. For adults, it



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Based on Principal continued...	2
Teacher Feature.....	3
New Heights Social Media.....	4
Playground Update.....	4
Yearbook Update .....	5
Monthly Planner .....	6

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Oct. 12 School Board Meeting 4pm
- Oct. 21-22 No School
- Nov 5– End of First Quarter



means going to work, earning our way, and contributing to our community as producers. School is at the foundation of that. It is vitally important that we continue to instill the value of education in our youth. Let's help them to understand that they are responsible to come to school each day with a spirit of cooperation, an attitude of courtesy and respect, and a willingness to try to do the work that our teachers present to them each day to the best of their ability. If we can agree on those key core values, we will get back to a more "normal" state sooner rather than later.

## Bus Update

I have recently sent two messages home outlining the school bus issues and how the upcoming changes may impact our families. If you missed those messages, this should be of some help. The transportation department is currently working on the revised routing for the entire district, which includes New Heights School. The re-routing, which was originally set to take place on October 4th, has been postponed until November 3rd- which means that the current level of busing should remain intact until November 3rd. We understand that the first priority is to re-route families who live 2.0 miles from school or more on buses beginning on

November 3rd. As this re-routing takes place, the routers will attempt to continue to add students to routes who live inside of the 2.0 mile boundary as long as there is space on the buses- we anticipate there will be space for more students. That does not guarantee that all families who currently have busing to and from school will still get bused, but it does mean that the routers are going to make every effort to run buses at capacity and they are hopeful that they will be able

to continue to offer busing to all of our currently bused families, even after November 3rd. We expect that the transportation department will be sending information to families on or around October 27th, so please be watching for your family's updated route information later this month. If you are confused, call the school and we will try to assist you.

These are complicated times. When things don't seem to make sense, please try to have patience and remain calm. You

can always call the school for clarification. We will do our best to guide you.

*Tom Kearney-Principal*



## FREE MEALS PROGRAM

Free Meals are available to all students this year. This includes both breakfast and lunch throughout the school year.

**\*\*This program does not include ala carte.**

**For more information please contact Lindsay Berberich at 651-439-1962 or [Lberberich@newheightsschool.org](mailto:Lberberich@newheightsschool.org).**

*\*Please remember to fill out the application for free and reduced meals even though lunches are free for all this year.*



## **BREAKFAST UPDATE:**

New Heights breakfast will be available from **8:50am—9:05am** in the school cafeteria. In the case of late buses, exceptions will be made to allow students to eat.

# New Teacher Feature

## MS. BOHNERT – SPECIAL EDUCATION



Ms. Bohnert is joining New Heights School after 10 years of teaching special education in the north metro. She was born, raised, and currently lives in Stillwater. She is looking forward to working in and becoming a bigger part of the community.

### 1. What inspired you to become a teacher?

I volunteered in a special education program during high school and really enjoyed it! There wasn't one specific event that inspired me, it's just something I've always wanted to do :-)

### 2. What do you enjoy most about teaching?

Helping students to feel like they have a place they belong, and helping them understand that learning is lifelong.

### 3. What is the most exciting thing you've ever done?

Paragliding in Colombia!

### 4. What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

I did classical ballet for over half of my life!

### 5. What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

In my free time, I enjoy hiking, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling, gardening, and just hanging out with my family, friends, and dog.



## PARENT PARKING ON MULBERRY STREET

Attention Parents:

Please avoid dropping students off in front of the building between the school bus signs before and after school. Parent pickup and drop-off is now located on Mulberry Street by the gym doors.

Thanks for helping keep our students safe!

## FUNDRAISING FOR NEW HEIGHTS SCHOOL

Remember that you can support New Heights through the AmazonSmile program! When you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.



Every item available for purchase on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) is also available on AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) at the same price.

Be sure to select New Heights Schools Inc. as your charity of choice!

# Follow New Heights School on Social Media!



New Heights School is now on both Facebook and Instagram! Follow us for school updates and pictures of our students and staff throughout the year!

@New Heights School



@new\_heights\_school\_mn



## New Heights All– Inclusive Playground Update *North Hills Community Playground*

This summer New Heights hosted our second annual garage sale to continue raising money for the inclusive playground we hope to construct. Thank you to those who donated or stopped by to shop! We were able to make progress towards our goal and meet some members of the community!

Our application to join the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce was accepted allowing our supporters be joined by the Leadership in the Valley Team!

The New Heights Inclusive Playground project now has been given a community-centered name of:

***The North Hill Community Playground.***



Watch for news about upcoming fundraisers at local establishments!

Follow the progress of this goal on Facebook as well!



@New Heights School Playground

A decorative border surrounds the central green box, featuring various school-related icons such as a microscope, books, a graduation cap, a football, a head with gears, an owl, a compass, musical notes, and a lightbulb.

**Purchase the  
New Heights School Inc.  
Yearbook  
by October 31st!**

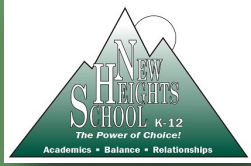
**5%  
OFF**  
purchase by  
October 31

To purchase your yearbook go to:  
[treering.com/ 1015695901432796](http://treering.com/1015695901432796)

**Regular Price: \$16.88**

\*Does not include sales tax, if applicable

**TreeRing**



# October Monthly Planner

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 <i>Board of Directors Meeting 4pm</i>	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20	21 <i>MEA No School</i>	22  <i>MEA No School</i>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>Elementary Halloween Parade</i>	30
31 						

## Upcoming Events:

No School Monday and Tuesday- November 1st and 2nd

End of Quarter 1 Friday- November 5th

Conferences and Picture Day Friday- November 12th