

Esko's Corner

Esko Public School District #99

Connecting School and Community

Volume 28 Issue 1

September/October/November 2023

Esko Fun Days Thank Yous

Thank you to the following businesses for your donations to Esko Fun Days!

Major Donors (over \$1000):

- Thomson Township
- Esko Minis
- Esko Express
- Marline & Associates
- Caywood Country Store Esko

Additional Financial Sponsors:

- Barnes Care
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- RAM
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- North View Bank
- Granite Works -Marsha Koski
- Widdes
- Baxter LLC & Think MN -Annie Pollard
- Regional Realty
- Adolphson Real Estate Inc
- Melissa Juntunen
- Arrowhead Waller Insurance Agency
- Koski Ready Mix
- Jenna Miller
- Patrick & Jamie Sathers-Day
- Nikki & Brandon Crotteau

We are also thankful for donations of time or product:

- Wild Lily Events
- Esko Trails
- Advantage Emblem
- Esko Community Education
- Brian Michaud
- Esko Historical Society
- Esko Fire Department
- Trophy Barn

Thank you to the Esko Community Partnership members for the hours of planning to put together an amazing week of events.



We would love to have additional members of Esko Community Partnership. These are our current members who can share with you why you should be a part of this forward thinking and fun group. Check us out on Facebook to see how to sign up or come to our next meeting on October 10th at noon. Place TBD. Check out our website at <https://esko-community-partnership.square.site/> where you can sign up for email notifications from the group.

- Radosevich Law
- Jamie Sathers Day-JS Realty
- Esko Mini's Child Care
- Reliable Insurance
- Edward Jones- Kory Deadrick
- Esko Trails
- Esko Community Education
- Esko Historical Society
- Rootstock Herbals

CAR-RT SORT
POSTAL CUSTOMER
ESKO, MN 55733

Esko Community Education
Box 10, Esko, MN 55733

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 11
Esko, MN 55733

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Application for Educational Benefits

Superintendant’s Update

By Aaron Fischer

Welcome Back!

I am more excited than ever to begin another school year! Esko is fortunate to have an outstanding staff that provides an exceptional educational experience for all of our students. Great things happen when we see the staff, students, and parents working together.

Fitness Center

As I write this article, the footings are being poured for the new fitness center addition. The fitness center is scheduled to be completed by January of 2024. This new fitness center will have more space and will include upgraded equipment. In addition, the center will continue to be a space that is accessible for students and community members. An important new feature is that the space will now have outside access, so community members will not need to enter the building to enter the building. We are planning for parking spots next to the new addition that will be for the community members to park when they are working out or receiving PT services.

Parking Challenges

The construction crews working on the fitness center will be using a portion of the high school parking lot to store building materials. Because of this, we are unable to use all spots

Application for Educational Benefits

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our school offers healthy meals each day. Starting school year 2023-24, we are joining Minnesota’s Free School Meals Program. All students can get one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school. Although no application is required to receive this free meal benefit, filling out the Application for Educational Benefits is still important! Your child(ren) may qualify for other benefits like reduced fees at school. Your application may also help the school qualify for education funds, discounts, and other meal programs.

To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits and return it to:

Esko Public Schools Attn: Emily Johnson

PO Box 10 Esko, MN 55733

Who should complete this application?

Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and foster, homeless, migrant and runaway children qualify without reporting household income. Alternatively, children can qualify if their household income is within the maximum income shown for their household size on the instructions.

COMMON QUESTIONS:

I get WIC or Medical Assistance. Can my children qualify? Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify. Children may be eligible depending on other household financial information. Please fill out an application.

Who should I include as household members? Include yourself and all other people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends).

May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens for you to complete an application.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get overtime only sometimes. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.

Will the income information or case number I give be checked? It may be. We may also ask you to send written proof.

How will the information be kept? Information you provide on the form, and your child’s approval, will be protected as private data. For more information, see the back page of the Application for Educational Benefits.

If I don’t qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. Please complete an application at any time if your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR benefits.

If you have other questions or need help, call 218-879-2969

Sincerely,

Emily Johnson

How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits

Complete the Application for Educational Benefits form for school year 2023-24 if any of the following applies to your household:

- Any household member currently participates in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or
- The household includes one or more foster children (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child) or
- The total income of household members is within the guidelines shown below (gross earnings before deductions, not take-home pay). Do not include as income: foster care payments, federal education benefits, MFIP payments, or value of assistance received from SNAP, WIC, or FDPIR. Military: Do not include combat pay or assistance from the Military Privatized Housing Initiative. The income guidelines are effective from

in the high school lot for parking. We recognize this will be a challenge this fall and encourage everyone to work on solutions to address this shortfall.

Solar Energy

The School District applied for and received a grant to install new solar panels at the sports/environmental complex. We are waiting for final approval to begin this project and are hopeful this will be installed this fall. This project is a win/win for the District.

Free Lunches/Breakfast

The State passed a new statute that provides free lunches and breakfast to all students. This will be in effect on the first day of school. Each child will receive one free breakfast and lunch each day, however if your child wants a second lunch they will have to pay.

I want to also remind families that are eligible for free and reduced lunches to continue filling out the free and reduced lunch paperwork from the Federal Government. This won’t have any effect on your child getting a free lunch, but this paperwork is very important for the school to collect revenue for other federal programs. Title One remedial services and other programs receive their funding from the Federal Government. We will lose funding and remedial resources for students if you don’t fill out the paperwork. If you have questions related to this topic, please contact Emily Johnson at 879-2969.

July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Maximum Total Income					
Household size	\$ Per Year	\$ Per Month	\$ Twice Per Month	\$ Per 2 Weeks	\$ Per Week
1	26,973	2,248	1,124	1,038	519
2	36,482	3,041	1,521	1,404	702
3	45,991	3,833	1,917	1,769	885
4	55,500	4,625	2,313	2,135	1,068
5	65,009	5,418	2,709	2,501	1,251
6	74,518	6,210	3,105	2,867	1,434
7	84,027	7,003	3,502	3,232	1,616
8	93,536	7,795	3,898	3,598	1,799
Add for each additional person	9,509	793	397	366	183

Step 1: Children

List all infants and children in the household, their school and grade if applicable, and birth-date. Attach an additional page if needed to list all children. Check the box if a child is in foster care (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child).

Step 2: Case Number

If any household member currently participates in SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR, write in the case number and then go to Step 4. If you do not participate in any of these programs, leave Step 2 blank and continue on to Step 3.

Step 3: Adult and Child Incomes / Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number

- Social Security Number/Total Household Members. An adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security number or check the box if they do not have a Social Security number. Report the total number of household members and ensure all household members are listed individually on the application in the child or adult section as applicable.
- Child Income. If any children in the household have regular income, such as SSI or part-time jobs, list the total amount of regular incomes received by all children, and check the box for the frequency: weekly, bi-weekly, twice a month, or monthly. Do not include occasional earnings like babysitting or lawn mowing.
- Adult income. Report the names of adult household members and income earned in this section.

List all adults living in the household not listed in Step 1, whether related or not, such as grandparents, relatives, or friends.

Gross Earnings from Work. This is usually the money received from working at jobs where a paycheck is received. For each income, check the box to show how often the income is received: weekly, bi-weekly, twice per month, or monthly.

List gross incomes before deductions, not take-home pay. Do not list an hourly wage rate. For adults with no income to report, enter a ‘0’ or leave the section blank. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.

Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer? List the net income per month or year after business expenses. Do not list the same income twice on the application. A loss from farm or self-employment must be listed as 0 income and does not reduce other income.

Any Other Gross Income. List gross incomes before deductions from all other sources, such as SSI, unemployment, child support, public assistance, social security, rental income or annuities.

Step 4: Signature and Contact Information

An adult household member must sign the form. If you do not want your information to be shared with Minnesota Health Care Programs, check the “Don’t share” box in Step 4.

Optional:

Please provide the information on ethnicity and race that is requested on the second page of the form. This information is not required and does not affect approval for school meal benefits. The information helps to ensure we are meeting civil rights requirements and fully serving our community.

Application for Educational Benefits



2023-24 Application for Educational Benefits

Complete one application per household for all children. Please use pen (not a pencil). Mail or return completed form to: (School/District Information) _____

STEP 1: List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper).

Definition: A Household Member is “Anyone living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related.” Read *How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits* for more information. Adults over grade 12 living in the same household should be reported in Step 3. If your children attend different districts or charter/nonpublic schools, return an application at each one.

Child's First Name (list all children in household)	MI	Child's Last Name	School	Grade	Birthdate	Foster Child (v)
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 2: Do Any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, MFIP or FDIPIR? Medical assistance **does not** qualify. If **NO** > Go to STEP 3.
If **YES** >Enter SNAP, MFIP or FDIPIR Case Number (between 4-9 digits, do not report EBT card number) _____ then go to STEP 4 (**Do not complete STEP 3**)

STEP 3: Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered ‘Yes’ to STEP 2)

A. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Household Member: XXX-XX- Or Check if Adult has No SSN: ☐ Total Number of All Household Members (Children + Adults)

B. Child Income.
Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income, such as from a part time job or SSI. Please include the TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1. Do not include income received by adults in the box to the right.

Total Income Received by All Children	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. All Adult Household Members (including yourself). For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income only. If they do not receive income from any source, write ‘0’ or leave any fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. Not sure what income to include here? Flip the page and review “Sources of Income” for information. “Sources of Income” will help you with the Child Income section and All Adult Household Members section.

Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs					Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?			Any Other Gross Income				
List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents).	Monthly	Yearly	Net income from Farm or Self-Employment. Do not duplicate elsewhere.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	SSI, Unemployment, Public Assistance, Child Support, and others on Page 2
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$

STEP 4: Contact information and adult signature. “I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is give in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws.”

☐ I have checked this box if I *do not* want my information shared with Minnesota Health Care Program as allowed by state law.

Printed name of adult signing form _____ Daytime Phone _____

Address (if available) _____ Apt# _____ City _____ Zip _____

SIGN HERE: Signature of Household Adult _____ Date _____

Do Not Fill Out: For School Office Use Conversions to Annualize All Income:	X52	X26	X24	X12	X1	<input type="checkbox"/> Verified? Attach Tracker	No change	Free After Verified	Reduced After Verified	Denied After Verified
	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2X Month	Monthly	Annualize		Categorical Eligibility	Free	Reduced	Denied
All Total Income (Include child and adult income)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Household Size:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determining Official Signature: _____							Date: _____			
Confirming Official Signature: _____							Date: _____			

See Page 2 for Additional Information. Return completed form to the school at the address listed at the top of the form. Do not mail to the Minnesota Department of Education or United States Department of Agriculture.

OPTIONAL: Children’s Racial and Ethnic Identities

We are required to ask for information about your children’s race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children’s eligibility. Respond to both Step One, *Ethnicity* and Step Two, *Race*.

Step One: Ethnicity (check one): ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Step Two: Race (check one or more): ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Earnings from workSocial Security<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disability PaymentsSurvivor’s BenefitsIncome from person outside the householdIncome from any other source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wagesA child is blind or disabled and receives Social SecurityA Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefitsA friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending moneyA child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust

Sources of Income for Adults

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	All Other Income
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes)Net income from self-employment (farm or business)If you are in the U.S. Military:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cash Assistance from State or local governmentSupplemental Security IncomeUnemployment benefitsWorker’s compensationAlimony paymentsChild support paymentsVeteran’s benefitsStrike benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social SecurityDisability benefitsRegular income from trusts or estatesAnnuitiesInvestment incomeRental incomeRegular cash payments from outside household

The **Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act** requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

At public school districts, each student’s school meal status also is recorded on a statewide computer system used to report student data to MDE as required by state law. MDE uses this information to: (1) Administer state and federal programs, (2) Calculate compensatory revenue for public schools, and (3) Judge the quality of the state’s educational program.

Nondiscrimination statement: In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant’s name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
(2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Annual Notification of School Policies

STUDENT DISCIPLINE (#506) “... The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students are aware of and comply with the school district’s expectations for student conduct. Such compliance will enhance the school district’s ability to maintain discipline and ensure that there is no interference with the educational process. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action when students fail to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct established by this policy.”

- PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS (#515)** “...The school district shall give parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance annual notice by such means as are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of the following:
1. That the parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student’s education records and the procedure for inspecting and reviewing education records;
 2. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student’s education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights and the procedure for requesting amendment of records;
 3. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated thereunder authorize disclosure without consent;
 4. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 1232g, and the rules promulgated thereunder;
 5. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest for purposes of disclosing education records to other school officials whom the school district has determined to have legitimate educational interests; and
 6. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll including suspension and expulsion records pursuant to the federal No Child Left Behind Act and, if applicable, a student’s history of violent behavior.

BULLYING PROHIBITION (# 516) “... to the extent such conduct affects the educational environment of the school district and the rights and welfare of its students and is within the control of the school district in its normal operations, it is the school district’s intent to prevent bullying and to take action to investigate, respond, remediate, and discipline those acts of bullying which have not been successfully prevented. The purpose of this policy is to assist the school district in its goal of preventing and responding to acts of bullying, intimidation, violence, and other similar disruptive behavior.”

- STUDENT SURVEYS (#520)** “...Occasionally the school district utilizes surveys to obtain student opinions and information about students. The purpose of this policy is to establish the parameters of information that may be sought in student surveys. Student surveys may be conducted as determined necessary by the school district. Surveys, analyses and evaluations conducted as part of any program funded through the U.S. Department of Education must comply with 20 U.S.C. 1232h.” Parents may opt out of the following activities by providing written notification to Julie Pelletier, c/o Esko Public Schools prior to October 15 of each school year:
- (1) Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose.
 - (2) The administration of any third-party survey as defined in the policy
 - (3) Any non-emergency invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or other students.
- Students and parents will be notified in advance of the activities/items listed above.

STUDENT DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION (#521) The purpose of this policy is to protect disabled students from discrimination on the basis of disability and to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need special services, accommodations, or programs in order that such learners may receive a free appropriate public education.

STUDENT SEX NONDISCRIMINATION (#522) Students are protected from discrimination on the basis of sex pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Minnesota Human Rights Act. The purpose of this policy is to provide equal educational opportunity for all students and to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY (#524) “...The

purpose of this policy is to set forth policies and guidelines for access to the school district computer system and acceptable and safe use of the Internet, including electronic communications.”

WORLD WIDE WEB PUBLISHING OF STUDENT WORK: Student artwork, writing or projects may be published on the World Wide Web, a part of the Internet, by the School District. No home address or telephone number will appear with such work. If parents do not want their child’s work to appear on the Internet, they must provide written notification to “Julie Pelletier c/o District Office” no later than October 15 of each school year. In lieu of written notification parents grant the School District copyrights and privileges to reproduce, adapt, publish, and display student work on the Internet. Such publication is intended to further the educational mission of the School District and display students’ works to a world-wide audience.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT (#806) “... The purpose of the Crisis Management Policy is to act as a guide for school district and building administrators, school employees, students, school board members, and community members as to how to address a wide range of potential crisis situations in the school district. The step-by-step procedures suggested by this Policy will provide guidance to each school building in drafting crisis management plans to coordinate protective actions prior to, during, and after any type of emergency or potential crisis situation in the school district. Please note that, pursuant to this Policy, tailored crisis management plans will be developed for each school building in the school district and sections, or procedures may be added or deleted in those crisis management plans based on building needs.

- THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT** requires the following notices be given to parents:
- MILITARY RECRUITERS** - Parents have a right to request that their child’s name, address, and telephone number not be released to a military recruiter without their prior consent. Written requests should be submitted to Julie Pelletier in the District Office by October 15 of each year.
- TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS** - Parents may request the following information:
- Whether the teacher has met Minnesota Department of Education requirements for licensure at the grade level and the subject area(s) they teach
 - Whether the teacher has an emergency or provisional license
 - What the teacher’s undergraduate major was, any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher including the field of discipline of the certification or degree
 - Whether the child is being taught by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

Annual Health and Safety Notifications

AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) Federal legislation requires public schools to maintain a list of locations and types of asbestos found in the school building and a description for their proper management. The Asbestos Management Plan and related inspection reports are available at the District Office.

DRINKING WATER Esko Schools maintains and produces its own water, as there is no city system to draw from in Thomson Township. The school’s water system treats and filters all water prior to distribution in the building, and drinking water is again filtered at each water fountain. Tony Compo, Head Custodian, has received ongoing training and is licensed by the MN Department of Health as a “water treatment technician.” Water samples are taken weekly from both wells by the District and are then are sent to the Minnesota Department of Health for testing. To date, Esko Public Schools has met all requirements relating to the safety of our water supply system per MN Department of Health (MDH) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines. Our water is used for drinking and preparation of meals daily. The testing log and results of the MDH & EPA tests are available at the District Office.

RADON Building tests have indicated that radon levels do not exceed the acceptable levels as established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Test results are available at the District Office

INDOOR AIR QUALITY Through preventative measures and regular maintenance of our facility and its mechanical systems, Esko Schools monitors and works to improve Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) for our students and staff using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines and recommendations. Questions or concerns regarding IAQ should be directed to the District Office.

Complete versions of all school policies are available online at: www.esko.k12.mn.us/policyindex.htm or by contacting the District Office.

Bob Thompson Memorial Esko Sports Alliance Golf Tournament

When: Saturday, September 9, 2023
Where: Cloquet Country Club
Time: 11:00 a.m. Shotgun Start



Donation: \$500 for a 5-person team -
\$100 for individual non-member.
4-person teams \$500 - \$125 for individual non-member.
(\$20 less for any Cloquet Country Club members)

Donation Includes: Lunch at the turn, Green Fees, Golf
Carts (two per group) or you may walk or use your own
push cart and a participant gift.

Limited to first 28 teams

Sign up ASAP by contacting Chad Stoskopf at
cstoskopf@esko.k12.mn.us or 218-879-1909

All proceeds will directly support
Esko Athletic Programs

Giving Back to the Community

One of the most satisfying, fun, and productive ways to unite teenagers to senior citizens, is to spend time providing senior citizens an extra hand in yard work like raking leaves and picking up garbage. On Wednesday, October 18, the Class of 2024 will be out in the Esko community learning valuable lessons about the meaning of volunteering their services and giving back to their community through hard work. When a community is doing well as a whole, its individuals are better off too. The annual Senior Clean-Up Day gives the students a strong sense of fulfillment, responsibility, and commitment. It is an opportunity to thank the community of Esko for everything it has provided for the students throughout their years of growing up.

The students will begin working at 8:30AM and will call the day before to confirm an approximate time they will be at your house. The students can place the leaves in bags you leave out or bring them to an area of your property that you designate on the sign up form.

Please use the form below to sign up for the annual Class of 2024 Clean-Up Day

Wednesday, October 18th, at 8:30 a.m.
(Make-up day will be October 25th.)

Esko High School Class of 2024 Community Clean-Up

It's time again for the Esko High School Class of 2024 to do their annual volunteer service project. They will be performing community projects such as raking leaves or picking up garbage. If you are interested in having this done at your home, please fill out the information below, cut out this ad, and send it to or drop it off at the high school office by October 12th. If you have any questions related to the senior community project, please call.

Esko High School
1 East Highway 61, P.O. Box 10
Attn: Nicki Peterson
Esko, MN 55733
or call 218-879-4673 ext. #631
or
npererson@esko.k12.mn.us

If you'd like to be put on the list, please fill out the following information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone#: _____
Work Needed: _____

Please understand that students are not allowed to enter homes or climb on ladders.



ESKO FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER



10th
ANNIVERSARY!



MEMORIAL
PANCAKE
ROUND-UP

WITH FAMOUS FAMILY TRADITION PANCAKES!

Breakfast will be
served dine-in and
curbside pick-up.

Saturday, October 7th · 2023
7 AM - 11 AM @ Esko Fire Hall

TICKETS: \$7/ea Family of 4 or more: \$25

All proceeds from events benefit Esko Fire Department
Please make all checks payable to: EFRA or Esko Fire Relief Association

Beyond the Bump
Growing Together

Created by moms, for moms. Beyond the Bump: Growing Together is a safe, supportive environment for moms to ask questions and receive expert, evidence-based recommendations on caring for their infant and themselves.

WHEN: Tuesdays from 5-6 PM (beginning October 3, 2023)
WHERE: Community Memorial Hospital
COST: FREE

Open to all. Need not be a CMH patient to register.

To view a full list of topics and register, scan the code with your smartphone! Registration is required.



Publication Title - Esko's Corner
Statement of Frequency - monthly (9 months)
Authorized Organization: Esko Community Education, P.O. Box 10 2 E Hwy 61,
Esko, Mn 55733

Issue Number - On front cover
Articles and submissions may be sent to the Esko Community Education office or e-mailed to mcarlson@esko.k12.mn.us. The deadline is the 15th of each month for the next month's issue. The publication schedule can be found on the website. Articles may be edited for space and content. If you have questions, please call the community education office at 879-4038. Visit the school website: www.esko.k12.mn.us

Community Education

ADULT

Zumba with Naomi Christenson

Zumba is a fitness cardio workout that combines Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves that will make you forget you’re even working out! Our goal is simple...we want you to be healthy, to love working out and to enjoy exciting calorie burning, body energizing movements meant to be enjoyed throughout your life at any age! Now is the time to try Zumba!

Bring to Class: Water Bottle

Cost: \$56.00 for 8 Week session

9/11/2023 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

9/18/2023

9/25/2023

10/2/2023

10/9/2023

10/16/2023

10/23/2023

10/30/2023

Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Zumba six week session starting

11/13/2023 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

11/20/2023

11/27/2023

12/4/2023

12/11/2023

12/18/2023

Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Pilates with Kati Ruhnke

Pilates is a low-impact, slow and controlled practice. This movement practice can help you; build strength, increase flexibility, release tension, relieve back, shoulder, and other joint pain, plus so much more. Come join Kati who just recently received her Mat 1 Certification, but has practiced and loved pilates for many years. I will give modifications and challenges to work with all levels.

Bring to Class: Pilates or yoga mat and water

Cost: \$72.00 for 6 week session

9/20/2023 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

9/27/2023

10/4/2023

10/11/2023

10/18/2023

10/25/2023

Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Beginner to Intermediate Mat Pilates Class

My name is Kati and I have practiced and loved Pilates for many years! I have been teaching for over a year now as a Mat 1 Certified Instructor! Pilates is a low-impact, slow, and controlled practice. This movement practice can help you: build strength, increase flexibility, release tension, relieve back, shoulder, and other joint pain, and more! I will give modifications and challenges to work with all levels.

All you need is a Pilates/yoga mat and water.

Just \$72 per person for a 6 week session! OR \$14 one time pass.

11/8/2023 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

11/15/2023

11/22/2023

11/29/2023

12/6/2023

12/13/2023

Esko Schools - Cafeteria

Learn to Sew by Making a Quilt

A fun sewing class coming this fall called “Learn to Sew by Making a Quilt.” It is a beginning sewing class. The instructor will supply all the materials and the sewing machines. It is a 2-night class and everyone leaves with a 4’ x 5’ completed (guaranteed) quilt. I own 9 machines so my class size is limited to 9 unless people

are able to bring a machine.

Cost: \$100.00

Instructor: Erin Cox

Room S 100

Monday, October 2 & Tuesday, October 3

6:00 PM-9:00 PM

We would love to offer more adult classes so if you have a talent you would like to share or know of someone who would be willing to teach a class please reach out to Community Ed at 879-4038.

YOUTH

****Directly after school, students will meet for a snack and check-in in the cafeteria, then report to their club’s meeting spot. You may pick up your child at the playground doors (door #6). If your child will not be attending a scheduled club, please inform their teacher AND call the Community Education office at 879-4038****

Refunds can be given on classes that have not begun with notice 24 hours prior to the start of class. Refunds can not be given on the day of the class, or after the class has started.

Esko Community Education cannot accept registration for After School Clubs on the day of the club, due to communication with teachers and Cool Kids regarding attendance.

Elementary Cross Country Section #1

Come run with the high school cross country team! Practice your running and try to beat your own personal scores!

Please note: on the 3rd week, students will be participating in a cross country meet! Students will walk to the school forest trails and participate in an official meet with the help of High School coaches and athletes. Pick up will be at 4:30 in the field parking lot!

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$12

Instructor: Dawn Hallsten

9/11/23-9/18/23 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

9/25/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Playground

Esko School Forest

Elementary Volleyball

Join Mrs. Vesel-Johnson for fall volleyball, open to 5th and 6th grade boys and girls.

Please see below for specific dates, times and locations.

Tues 9/12- 3:30-5:00 Room S100. Please bring an iPad as we will go over rules of the game, terminology and watch a game.

Wed 9/13-5:30-7:00 Varsity gym

Thurs 9/14 3:30-5:00 Varsity gym

Tues 9/19- 3:30-5:30 Blue gym

Wed 9/20- 5:30-7:00 Varsity gym

Thurs 9/21- 3:30-5:30 Varsity gym

Tues 9/26 - 3:30-5:30 Varsity gym

Wed 9/27 - 5:30-7:00 Varsity gym

Thurs 9/28 TBD

Tues 10/3 - 3:30-5:30 Varsity gym

Wed 10/4 - 5:30-7:00 Varsity gym

Thurs 10/5 - 3:30-5:00 Varsity gym ****pizza/game after TBD**

Tues 10/10 - 3:30-5:00 Varsity gym

Wed 10/11 - 5:30-7:00 Varsity gym

Thurs 10/12 - 3:30-5:30 Blue gym

Tournaments will be on Saturdays, to be communicated by the instructor as they become available. Any other changes will be communicated by the instructor.

Please bring athletic clothes, clean, supportive shoes, knee pads and a water bottle.

Age Req: Grades 5 & 6

Cost: \$65

Instructor: Bridget Vesel-Johnson

Date/Time: See above

Location: See above

Esko Trails - Mermaid

Age Req: Grades 2-6

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Amy Feely

9/12/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - Owl Serving Dish

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$18

Instructor: Michelle Line

9/14/23 3:30-4:30 pm

Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - MN Hat Beading

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$17

Instructor: Michelle Line

9/18/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Room S101

Elementary Cheer Clinic Section #1

Do you love to cheer? Be part of the elementary cheer clinic! The elementary cheerleaders will learn cheers, jumps, kicks, and a dance. Cheerleaders will receive a snack each day after school, free entrance into the game and a cheer shirt. Cheerleaders should wear the shirt at the basketball game. Treats, poms and hair bows will be for sale during practice days. Please bring tennis shoes and a water bottle.

Age Req: Grades Pre-K-6

Cost: \$42

Instructor: Joyce Bergstedt & Kari Knutson

9/18/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

9/20/23 2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Cafeteria

Elementary Cheer Clinic Section #2

Do you love to cheer? Be part of the elementary cheer clinic! The elementary cheerleaders will learn cheers, jumps, kicks, and a dance. Cheerleaders will receive a snack each day after school, free entrance into the game and a cheer shirt. Cheerleaders should wear the shirt at the basketball game. Treats, poms and hair bows will be for sale during practice days. Please bring tennis shoes and a water bottle.

Age Req: Grades Pre-K-6

Cost: \$42

Instructor: Joyce Berstedt and Kari Knutson

9/19/23 & 9/21/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Cafeteria

Northern Outdoors Club

Learn all about how animals “talk” with each other! This is going to be a fun class packed with games, and hands-on activities involving testing all your animal senses!

Age Req: Grades 3-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Cassie Janke

9/26/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Playground

Savannah’s Pottery - Old Oak Leaf Mug

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Michelle Line

9/28/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm

Room S101

Elementary Cross Country Section #2

Come run with the high school cross country team! Practice your running and try to beat your own personal

Community Education

al scores!

Please note: on the 3rd week, students will be participating in a cross country meet! Students will walk to the school forest trails and participate in an official meet with the help of High School coaches and athletes. Pick up will be at 4:30 in the field parking lot!

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$12
Instructor: Dawn Hallsten
10/2/23-10/9/23 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm
10/16/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Playground
Esko School Forest

Esko Trails - Ghost Banner

Age Req: Grades 2-6
Cost: \$20
Instructor: Amy Feely
10/3/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - Boo Serving Dish

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$18
Instructor: Michelle Line
10/5/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Duluth Children’s Museum - Fossils!

Join the Duluth Children’s Museum Staff for an afternoon of learning and fun!

Fossils!

Do you know what a paleontologist is and what they do? Become one and learn about fossils in this hands-on program where we will dig up real fossils and build a dinosaur!

Age Req: Grades 3-6
Cost: \$14
Instructor: DCM Staff
10/10/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S100

Savannah’s Pottery - Pumpkin Mug

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$16
Instructor: Michelle Line
10/17/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Child and Babysitting Safety Class

The child and babysitting Safety (CABS) program from the American Safety and Health Institute gives everything you need to know for safe and successful babysitting. The YouTube “vlogger” style presentation of the video brings a youthful and high-energy spirit to the program content, and the colorful magazine format of the student book makes learning fun. From getting

started with your business, to working with parents and children, to key safety, caregiving, and first aid tips, CABS will help set you up for babysitting success. Students must be present for the entire class and complete achievement of the core learning objectives to receive certification valid for two years. Students attend class independently and should come prepared with a notebook and pen.

Age Req: Ages 11-15
Cost: \$55
Instructor: Ariane Bromberg
10/19/23 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Room S100

Home Alone

Is your child ready for the independence of being home alone? Parents need to be sure their children have the skills and maturity to handle the responsibility safely. Whether it is for an hour after school or several hours a day during the summer, being trusted to be home alone can be a positive experience for a child who is mature and well prepared. This class for children will address several topics relating to being “Home Alone” including age guidelines, safe habits, house rules, after school routines, phone calls, and door knocks, dog emergencies, personal safety, handling the unexpected, gun safety, severe weather, fire safety, intruders and first aid tips. Students attend this class independently and should come prepared with a notebook and pen. Parents are encouraged to review the take-home information and discuss it with their child.

Please note: You need to register for each class independently. If you choose to register for both classes, there will be a short lunch break from 12:00-12:30 where students are encouraged to bring a nut-free bag lunch.

Age Req: Ages 8-15
Cost: \$35
Instructor: Ariane Bromberg
10/19/23 12:30 pm-2:30 pm
Room S100

Northern Outdoors Club - Pumpkins & Skeletons

Get in the Halloween spirit with a very unusual pumpkin dissection, while learning about the plant life cycle and eating some pumpkin seeds! Then, dissect an owl pellet and attempt to recreate the skeleton of whatever your owl ate for lunch.

Age Req: Grades 2-6
Cost: \$19
Instructor: Cassie Janke
10/26/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Playground
Room S100

Esko Trails - Boho Rainbow

Age Req: Grades 2-6

Cost: \$20
Instructor: Amy Feely
10/26/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - Kid’s Choice

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$16
Instructor: Michelle Line
10/30/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Northern Outdoors Club - Antler Art

Get your lucky antler ready for deer season! Customize a real antler point and turn it into a keychain for your own take-home use!

Age Req: Grades 3-6
Cost: \$22
Instructor: Cassie Janke
11/2/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - Bulb Ornament

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$15
Instructor: Michelle Line
11/9/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Esko Trails - Mermaid or Football Name Sign

Age Req: Grades 2-6
Cost: \$20
Instructor: Amy Feely
11/14/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - You Pick Ornament

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$16
Instructor: Michelle Line
11/16/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - Ho ho ho Cookie Plate

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$18
Instructor: Michelle Line
11/21/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Savannah’s Pottery - Christmas Cardinal Dish

Age Req: Grades 1-6
Cost: \$16
Instructor: Michelle Line
11/30/23 3:30 pm-4:30 pm
Room S101

Early Childhood Screening information

Early Childhood Screening is a state mandated kindergarten entrance requirement, which needs to be completed for all preschoolers between the ages of 3 ½- 5 years old. Esko Public School’s Fall Screening dates are: Tuesday October 10, 4:00-6:00 pm and Wednesday October 11, 8:00 am-2:00 pm. Please register for your child’s appointment at: <https://esko.ce.eleyo.com> .

If you have any questions, please contact Jill Liupakka at jliupakka@esko.k12.mn.us or (218)879-2969 ext. 636.

We look forward to meeting you and your preschooler!

Register for ALL Community Ed offerings with this QR code!



Early Childhood Family Education

Tiny Tots

Enjoy one-on-one time with your toddler before attending a discussion about a variety of topics specific to a toddler’s social, emotional and physical development. Children enjoy socializing under the supervision of an early childhood teacher. Parents will have an in-class meeting the first few weeks. We will begin having parent/child separation after the children have had a few weeks to build a comfort with their classroom teachers. This class is only offered for children ages 4 – 30 months. Sibling care is not available.

- Age: 6 – 30 months
- Cost: \$50 per child
- Instructor: Shannon Matzdorf
- When: Mondays
- 09/25/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 10/02/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 10/09/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 10/16/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 10/23/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 10/30/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 11/13/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 11/20/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 11/27/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 12/04/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- 12/11/23 4:30 – 5:45 pm
- Esko Education Center – ECFE Room

Marvelous Mondays

Enjoy playing and making fun crafts with your child(ren) while also meeting other families in your community. Come discuss positive and practical ways to handle the challenges of raising young children. This is a great opportunity to gain knowledge and get advice from other parents who may be experiencing similar situations. This is also a great opportunity to share any tips you may have from your own life experiences, with other parents. Parents and children do separate for part of class time. This class is only offered for children ages Birth through five years. Sibling care is not available.

- Age – Mixed ages (birth to Five years)
- Cost: \$50 per child
- Instructor: Shannon Matzdorf
- When: Mondays
- 09/25/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 10/02/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 10/09/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 10/16/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 10/23/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 10/30/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 11/13/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 11/20/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 11/27/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 12/04/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- 12/11/23 6:00 – 7:15 pm
- Esko Education Center – ECFE Room

Terrific Tuesdays

Enjoy playing and making fun crafts with your child(ren) while also meeting other families in your community. Come discuss positive and practical ways to handle the challenges of raising young children. This is a great opportunity to gain knowledge and get advice from other parents who may be experiencing similar situations. This is also a great opportunity to share any tips you may have from your own life experiences, with other parents. Parents and children do separate for part of class time. This class is only offered for children ages Birth through five years. Sibling care is not available

- Age – Mixed ages (birth to Five years)
- Cost: \$50 per child
- Instructor: Shannon Matzdorf
- When: Mondays
- 09/26/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 10/03/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 10/10/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 10/17/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 10/24/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 10/31/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 11/14/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 11/21/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 11/28/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 12/05/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- 12/12/23 5:45 – 7:00 pm
- Esko Education Center – ECFE Room

Little Sprouts Learning Time

This is a great time for children to gain pre-Kindergarten knowledge while parents are learning more about how to guide their child through these early learning experiences. Children will explore arts and crafts, introduction to basic concepts, music and movement, and large muscle activities. This parent and child class will meet on Thursdays for 1 ½ hours. Children will have quality time with their parent, and also gain some independent experience while parents go off to a separate parent group for a portion of the class time. Parents will meet with a licensed parent educator to discuss parenting joys and concerns, as well as their child’s social, emotional, and physical development. This class can be combined with the class called Little Sprouts Outdoor Explorers if you choose. Children must be toilet trained, and must be signed up for Little Sprouts Learning Time, in order to register for Little Sprouts Outdoor Explorers. Please call and ask for Shannon if you have any questions about this or any other issues.

- Age: 2.5 to 5 years (Must be age 3 by March 31, 2024)
- Cost: \$75 per child
- Sibling Care available if enough need
- Instructor: Kari Knutson and Shannon Matzdorf
- When: Thursdays
- 9/14/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 9/21/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 9/28/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 10/5/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 10/12/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 10/26/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 11/2/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 11/9/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 11/16/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 11/30/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 12/7/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- 12/14/2023 8:45 – 10:15 am
- Esko Education Center – ECFE Room

Little Sprouts Explorers

This class offers more of an extension of their learning experience. They will gain some additional separation experience, be exposed to more preschool minded academic learning, and build on their social skills. This is a two hour drop off setting. Children must be toilet trained and also signed up for Little Sprouts Learning Time in order to register for Little Sprouts Explorers. Please call and ask for Shannon if you have any questions about this or any other issues.

- Age: 2.5 to 5 years (Must be age 3 by March 31, 2024)
- Cost: \$75 per child
- Instructor: Kari Knutson
- When: Tuesdays
- 09/26/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 10/03/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 10/17/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 10/24/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 10/31/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 11/07/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 11/14/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 11/21/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 11/28/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 12/05/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 12/12/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- 12/19/2023 8:45 – 10:45 am
- Esko Education Center – ECFE Room

*Families will never be turned away due to inability to pay fees. If you find yourself in either a financial hardship, or if the fees are too high for your income level, please make sure to connect with Shannon Matzdorf at smatzdorf@esko.k12.mn.us, or Michele Carlson mcarlson@esko.k12.mn.us. We will set up a payment that meets your family’s needs.



By Brian Harker

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday, September 5: First Day of School for Grades 1-6
- Thursday, September 7: First Day of School for Kindergarten
- Monday, September 11: PIE Meeting- 6:00 pm
- Monday, October 2: PIE Meeting – 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, October 4: 3 Hour Early Release- Elementary Conferences 1:00-7:00 pm
- Wednesday, Oct. 11: 3 Hour Early Release- Elementary Conferences 1:00-7:00 pm
- Thursday, Oct. 19: No School
- Friday, Oct. 20: No School

Back to School

Welcome back to school! Our staff is ready to hit the ground running. Thanks to our families for their support and for preparing their children to have a positive start to the school year. We look forward to partnering with you this year and making 2023/2024 a great school year.

Attendance

As a school community, we are going to put an extra focus on attendance this year. It is time to start getting back to positive school routines and put school attendance at the top of your list as a family. Distance learning is a thing of the past. Sleeping in because of a late sports practice or activity isn’t acceptable. Taking a day off because your child is tired doesn’t meet the standard. These are just some examples of what we hear from families during the school year. Each of these examples give your child the idea that school isn’t that important. We need to change this narrative and get back to putting school attendance as a high priority. Research shows that school attendance has a direct correlation to academic success and sets the tone for an overall positive school experience for students. Let’s work together this year to get get your child to school each and every day.

Conferences

We will be having conferences earlier in the school year again to allow our staff to connect with our families sooner in the school year. On Wednesday, October 4 and Wednesday October 11, our students will be released three (3) hours early. Dismissal will be at 12:15. Conferences will be scheduled from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm on both days. Please mark these dates on your family calendar and start making plans for child care. More information to come on scheduling...

Partners in Education (PIE)

If you are looking to get involved in a worthwhile organization that does wonderful things for the students in our building, then PIE is the group for you. Becoming a member is easy! If you are a parent of a child in Winterquist Elementary School, then you are already a member of this group. Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm (exception is September and January). This is a great opportunity to get together with this progressive group to talk, discuss, and support the school experience at Winterquist Elementary. PIE continues to raise money each year to support and provide educational opportunities for our young learners. We hope to see you at the meetings.

Other Items

- Students are not allowed in the building before 7:45 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. unless they are under direct supervision by a teacher or coach.
- The phone number to reach Winterquist Elementary is 218-879-3361.
- Please be sure to contact the school by 8:30 if your child is absent. Parents/guardians are required to inform the office of their child’s absence and the reason. If they do not call the office we will contact them as a safety precaution. If we can’t get an excuse for the absence it will turn into an unexcused absence.
- With fall fast approaching, the mornings are quite cool. Make sure to send along a jacket or sweatshirt with your child. They are outside on the playground to start the day.

Kids Heart Challenge seeking donations

Each spring the Kids Heart Challenge helps raise money for the American Heart Association to help those with special hearts. Each student that participates in the event after school receives a door prize.

Items that work best for this event are:

- gently used/new stuffed animals (of all sizes)
- age appropriate trinkets or gadgets for grades 3-5
- gently used/new sporting equipment

You can bring the donations before, during or after school to our Elementary Physical Education teacher Bridget Vesel-Johnson. She is located in the Varsity gym. Please leave a note as to who donated them so we can thank you properly.

Thank you, in advance, for helping save lives.

Esko Public Schools use a variety of digital tools to support student learning. Technology vendors and software is utilized to support work as we help all students develop the skills necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world.

We have an inventory of our curriculum, testing, and assessment tools posted on our school website; esko.k12.mn.us < Parents < Tech Resources < Software Inventory and Student Data Elements. It includes an outline of the student data elements within each tool. This list is maintained and communicated annually to all families at the start of the school year.

Please reach out to Greg Hexum, High School Principal (grhexum@esko.k12.mn.us) or Brian Harker, Elementary Principal (bharker@esko.k12.mn.us) if you have additional questions regarding specific digital tools used in classrooms.

Sincerely,

Esko Public Schools

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Become a school volunteer!

Following is a brief description of activities needing volunteer help. Most tasks are short term. Please check any areas that are of interest to you and return this form to your child’s classroom, the school office, or mail to: Joyce Bergstedt, Volunteer Coordinator, P.O. Box 10, Esko, MN 55733. You may also call 879-4673, Extension 230. Thank you!!

NAME _____ PHONE _____

CHILD’S NAME _____ GRADE _____

CHILD’S NAME _____ GRADE _____

CHILD’S NAME _____ GRADE _____

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

READERS: Monitor/record reading for elementary students.

TRACK AND FIELD DAYS in May.

ELEMENTARY CONCERTS: Set up and direct student traffic.

HOBBIES: Hobby or skill _____

Description of presentation: _____

TRAVEL (history/geography)

Country/region of travel _____

Brief description of presentation: _____

HEARING/VISION SCREENING two days in January or February.

SCOLIOSIS SCREENING one day in March.

BOOK FAIR: help students find books, collect money. Held the week of fall & spring conferences.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER: Assist students in finding and checking out books.

CHAPERONE: Supervise students while on field trips.

MISCELLANEOUS: Call me as needed for a couple of hours.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

CAREER CENTER VOLUNTEER: help students locate resources regarding scholarships, careers, and job search. Help organize and maintain the resources in the center.

OFFICE HELP:

IMAGINE IT DAY—Mailing in December, Event one or two days the last week of February

CHAPERONES: juniors and seniors to the National College Fair in the fall, or other activities to include other age groups. Half day up to full day.

MISCELLANEOUS: Call me as needed for a couple hours.

COMMUNITY ED EVENTS

EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSES/EVENTS _____ DANCE CHAPERONES

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS: _____ Teacher _____ Helpers

COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

ADULT ENRICHMENT INSTRUCTOR Describe _____

SCHOOL GARDEN HELPERS—planters, “waterers”, educators, harvesters.

For more information, contact Michele Carlson at 879-4038

Orientation and training will be provided.

Quarter 4 Honor Roll

Bella Abrahamson
Will Abrahamson
Emma Adkins
Ashley Aker
Parker Anderson
Joshua Antonutti
Lucye Backstrom
Ellahna Barnes
Ellynor Barta
Joel Barta
Lucy Barta
Alena Beare
Harper Benedix
Aspen Berg
Cadence Berger
Cairin Berger
Cuinn Berger
Wyatt Bergstedt
Genevieve Bohlman
Leah Borden
Ahna Brekke
Addison Bucsko
Priya Carey
Jordyn Carpenter
Samuel Cheslak
Ayden Chopskie
Jordan Chopskie
Megan Chopskie
Ty Christensen
Stefan Ciuca
Liberty Clifford
Aoife Cook
James Cornell
Paul Cornell
Hunter Dallager
Abrina Dammann
Ava Daveau
Rilee Durovec
Gabriel Dusek
Michael Dusek
Garrett East
Kendra East
Neil Elsmore
Marie Eng
Mason Eng
Anabelle Engen
Drew Erickson
Eliana Erspamer
Evan Erspamer
Marisa Ferkul
Elise Finc
Max Foster
Erik Fowler
Kaelyn Foxx
Kali Foxx
Millie Frederick
Finn Furcht
Ethan Gamache
Aubrey Gerard
Brennan Gerard
Taylor Gilbertson
Alyssa Gonzalez
Elijah Gonzalez

Caden Grayson
Raegan Grayson
Ella Grell
Allan Haapala
Max Haapala
Emily Hacker
Tuula Hallsten
Jamis Halverson
Alyssa Hansen
Sharla Hansen
Macy Hanson
Whitney Hanson
Eagan Harker
Easton Harker
Emerson Harker
Elizabeth Hartlieb
Cale Haugen
Samuel Haugen
Stella Haugen
Arabelle Hawkinson
Nolan Hendrickson
Braden Herman
Lillian Hester
Kaiden High
Gabriella Hilinski
Sawyer Hipp
Chiara Houser
Wyatt Hudspith
Bella Huffman
Madison Hurst
Ava Ion
Dominic Johnson
Elise Johnson
Erik Johnson
Hunter Johnson
Jacob Johnson
Jayce Johnson
Kyra Johnson
Maya Johnson
Meghan Johnson
Jayla Jones
Aina Jouppi
Sophia Juntunen
Sydney Kazel
Tallon Kiminski
Alex King
Dylan Klatte
Ava Korby
Kamryn Korkala
Britta Koski
Carson Kronlund
Avery Kuklinski
Reese Kuklinski
Kennedy Kurhajetz
Kaydence Lammi
Kennadie Lammi
Kaitlin Lattner
Amber Lawry
Keira Leach
Thurston Lick
Hewitt Liimatainen
Amara Liljegren
Brody Lillo

Aleah Lindgren
Presten Lindgren
Hailey Lough
Cole Luense
Leo Luense
Gianna Madill
Joelle Majerle
Braedyn Male
Braxdyn Male
Dylan Marciulionis
Kiya Marino
Ava Marline
Avery Martineau
Andrew Mattinen
Thomas Mattonen
Abigail McConnell
Kaitlyn McConnell
Grace McIlvain
Ava McKibbon
Brooklyn McKibbon
Ella McLeod
Maxwell McWilliams
Harper Mears
Brayley Merrier
Adelynn Michaud
Aubrey Micken
Ella Miles
Grace Miles
Addison Miller
Belle Miller
Aislynn Mock
Tagan Mock
Finn Muchow
Abigail Naud
Ellie Naud
Sophia Naud
Blake Nesseth
Leah Niven
Hanna Nooyen
Matthew Norstrom
Max Olson
Andrew Osborne
Jacion Owens
Jessica Pagelkopf
Samuel Panger
Landen Parask
Aubrey Pearce
Ainslie Perlinger
Harlow Perlinger
Jackson Peterson
Erin Pettyjohn
Titus Piepho
Drew Piontek
Bailey Plante
Paiton Plante
Witten Powers
Drew Prachar
Mallorie Prouty
Levi Raisanen
Ainsley Rauner
James Rautell
Sophia Reeves
Emelia Regas

Kellie Renne
Piper Rice
Hannah Roemer
Isaac Rud
Erica Rudeck
Liana Rust
Bryn Sathre
Elsa Sathre
Mari Sathre
Robert Schilling
Annastasia Schmitz
Hope Schmitz
Benjamyn Schramm
Ashley Schultz
Katie Schultz
Ella Seboe
Skylar Seguin
Grace Shannon
Attlei Sheldon
Ava Sheridan
Sophia Sheridan
Addison Sielaff
Kallahan Sinnott
Lucy Skifstad
Madison Slygh
Aubrey Snaza
Jaiden Soukkala
Aiden South
Vivian Spicer
Cassie Stark
Brooklyn Stewart
Tanner Stokes
Eilee Straub
Brooklyn Streu
Maya Stuermer
Neela Stuermer
Annabelle Sunnarborg
Lydia Swedberg
Jayden Symiczek
Tenley Taivaloja
Jack Tester
Luke Tester
Evan Thompson
Kaija Thompson
Abram Thwaits
Nolan Thwaits
Aiden Tingu
Kaylee Tipple
Amelia Warden
Henry Warden
Makenzie Warner
Wyatt Weber
Nicole Wietman
Kaden Willis
Nolan Witt
Charlie Wolter
Shelby Zahn
Carter Zezulka
Elliot Zigich
Izaac Zimmer
Lliam Zimny
Ava Zywicki

Quarter 4 Merit Roll

Kaylor Adkins
Rachel Amireault
Ava Anderson
Simone Anderson
Santiago Anich
Joseph Antonutti
Nicholas Ash
Mallory Ausland
Jayden Ausland
Therese Barousse
Lourdes Barousse
Jaxon Benedix
Aviana Bergstrand
Gino Bertogliat
Wyatt Blotti
Emmeline Bohlman
Emma Breed
Cadence Brissett
Tyler Campanario
Alli Campanario
Braeden Caple
Emma Cekalla
Joseph Cekalla
Brynn Christensen
Talon Clifford
Avah Clow
Keaira Coleman
David Cornell
Micheal Couture
Logan Dahlman
Ethan Dallager
Adam Dallmann
Aliyah Davis
Kennadi DeBondt
Rylee Demers
Colton Dewey
Anika Elsmore
Paige Fontaine
Claire Fontaine
Benjamin Foster
Philip Furcht
Zander Gabel
Logan Gamache
Melanie Gamache
Kaden Gariepy-Langdon
Owen Genereau
Kadence Ghann
Haley Glendenning
Ryan Glendenning
Jack Graddy
Javontae Gregory
Macie Greiner
Isabelle Haapala
Elizabeth Haapanen
Jackson Hacker
Jack Hakala
Annika Halvorson
Gabriel Hansen
Paige Hanson

Lilee Hanson
Greta Harden
Chloe Hart
Graham Hartlieb
Madilyn Hawkinson
Spencer Hipp
Bryce Hipp
Madeline Hipp
Robert Hurst
Jacob Iallonardo
Jocelyn Johnson
Ilee Johnson
Ethan Johnson
Jayce Johnson
Nels Jouppe
Joseph Jukich
Ari Juntunen
Eero Juntunen
Lucas Jurmu
William Karjala
Brandon Kauma
Madek Kayser
Alex Kazel
Jayden Keppeler
Ethan Klunenberberg
Caitlin Klunenberberg
Abigail Krech
Aubrey Kulas
Kamryn Kulas
Ethan Kvitek
Samantha LaGraves
Carley Lawry
Trevor Leach
Evelyn LeBlanc
Blake Leslie
Ethan Lindgren
Ariya Marino
August Marline
Broderick Marsh
Gabrielle Martenson
Solomon Marxhausen
Talon Mattson
Solveig Mattson
Bridger McCorison
Braydon McKibbon
Eden Mendez
Benjamin Meysembourg
Aidric Mock
Gavin Moderson
Trevor Mrozik
Kylie Mudrak
Sofia Munthe
Laila Nagorski
Ryan Napper
Alexander Nelson
Annika Nelson
Alivia Nelson
Allysa Nelson
Sovay Nick

Kenleigh Nikunen
Derek Nooyen
Owen OConnor
Evan O'Leary
Trenton Ondrus
Sophia Panger
Connor Pearce
Ava Pederson
Makoi Perich
Margaret Peterson
Alayna Peterson
Alec Peterson
Matthew Peterson
Evelyn Peterson
Nolan Pfister
Dylan Prachar
Dylan Putzke
Ethan Putzke
Jordyn Randa
Rylee Raymond
Adam Rudnicki
Nolan Ruuska
Lauryn Salmela
Tyler Salmela
Ava Savage
Aiden Sawyer
Christopher Schlies
Benjamin Schmitz
Ariel Schmitz
Bridget Schoepflin
Tucker Selin
Peyton Selin
Evan Severson
Araya Shovein
Alan Skowlund
Annabelle Skowlund
Charley Sonneman
Kate Staples
Jace Stewart
Jordan Stodola
Ryan Sturm
Declan Sullivan
Conor Sullivan
Embry Sundquist
Taylon Sweere
Mason Taylor
Robert Thornton
Xai Vang
Catrina Vigliaturo
Logan Waldo
Chase Walz
Evan Watsick
Noah Wells
Layla Whiting
Adeline Wickenheiser
Matthew Wiermaa
Payten Williams
Isaac Wisted

Spring Sports Awards

Clay Target

Letter winners: Derek Nooyen, Talon Mattson, Titus Piepho, Braedyn Male, John Pagelkopf, Jayden Keppeler, Trevor Leach, Mason Bandemer, Jaxon Benedix, Adam Rudnicki, Colton Dewey, Jaiden Soukkala, Nicholas Beise, Max Foster, Brayden Jordan, Elsa Sathre, Bryn Sathre, Evan Erspamer, Joseph Cekalla, Jessica Pagelkopf, Adam Rudnicki, Evan Erspamer, Nick Beise, Mason Bandemer

Baseball

Letter winners: Cal Berglund, Ty Christensen, Caden Grayson, Cale Haugen, AJ Kazel, Tyler Salmela, Noah Wells, Owen Wilson, Finn Furcht, Bryce Hipp, Dylan Marciulionis, Trent Ondrus, Isaak Sertich, Sam Haugen, Connor Pearce, Bobby Thornton

All Conference / All Section / State Awards:

All Conference – Cale Haugen, Finn Furcht, Isaak Sertich, Bryce Hipp and Sam Haugen

All State - Cale Haugen

Academic All-State – Cale Haugen and Ty Christensen.

Play Ball Minnesota! All-Star Series - Cale Haugen

Team Academic All State - Gold Standard. Top Team GPA!

Softball

Polar League All-Conference: Avery Kuklinski and Bailey Plante

All-Section: Avery Kuklinski, Bailey Plante, Raegen Olson

All-State Awards: 1st Team: Avery Kuklinski

Polar League All-Star Game Participation: Avery Kuklinski and Bailey Plante

Letter Winners: Rilee Durovec, Bailey Plante, Hannah Swanson, Kaelyn Foxx, Avery Kuklinski, Elizabeth Hartlieb, Alayna Peterson, Raegen Olson, Clara Swanson, Brynn Christensen, Keira Leach

Boys Track & Field

Award winners:(AC) All Conference, (SP) State Participant, (AS) All-State

Carter Zezulka- AC, SP, Wyatt Hudspith- AC, SP, AS Ben Meysembourg- AC, SP Spencer Hipp- AC,SP Braedyn Male AC, SP Alec Halvorson AC, SP, Jacob Randa AC, SP Ryan Sturm AC Jacion Owens AC Dalton Spindler AC

Letter winners: Joel Barta, Gino Bertogliat, David Cornell, Stefan Ciuca, Talon Clifford, Mason Eng, Ethan Gamache, Jack Graddy, Javontae Gregory, Alec Halvorson, Leland Hill, Spencer Hipp, Wyatt Hudspith, Braedyn Male, Braydon McKibbon, Ben Meysembourg, Ryan Napper, Jacion Owens, Makoi Perich, Dylan Prachar, Jacob Randa, James Rautell, Evan Rengo, Trevor Robinson, Dalton Spindler, Jace Stewart, Ryan Sturm, Evan Thompson, Chase Waltz, Carter Zezulka, Izaac Zimmer

Girls Track & Field

All-Conference: Kaitlyn McConnell, Gwendolyn Lilly, Kyra Johnson, Reese Kuklinski, Liberty Clifford, Megan Chopskie, Aleah Lindgren, Alora Dammann, Maya Johnson

Letter Winners: Madeline Hipp, Maya Johnson, Ava McKibbon, Brayley Merrier, Aubrey Pearce, Brecklyn Shovein, Lucy Skifstad, Eilee Straub, Aria Dammann, Kenleigh Nikunen, Aubrey Snaza, Ava Zywicki, Liberty Clifford, Raegan Grayson, Ella Grell, Macy Hanson, Chiara Houser, Reese Kuklinski, Aleah Lindgen, Kaitlyn McConnell, Grace McIlvain, Evelyn Peterson, Celia Preiner, Lauren Radovich, Hope Schmitz, Elizabeth Wells, Kyra Johnson, Gwendolyn Lilly, Megan Chopskie, Alora Dammann, Meghan Johnson,

(managers: Elizabeth Haapanen, Rachel Amireault)

2023 Esko Sports Alliance Scholarship Winners

As mentioned, one of the primary ways the Esko Sports Alliance is supporting Esko High School student athletes is through post-secondary scholarships. 2023 winners are listed below:

Esko Sports Alliance Outstanding Team-mate Scholarship (\$1000 each) Avery Kuklinski AJ Kazel

Esko Sports Alliance Team Contribution/Leadership Scholarship (\$1000 each) Megan Chopskie Ty Christensen

Esko Sports Alliance Most Outstanding Athlete (\$500 each) Megan Chopskie Carter Zezulka

The Bob Thompson Memorial Scholarship (Awarded to students who support Esko Athletics and teams) \$500 each Hannah Nooyen Cale Haugen

The Bert (Julian Bertogliat memorial awarded to a well-rounded multisport student-athlete of high character.) \$2000 Wyatt Hudspith

The Santo Antonutti Memorial Scholarship (Awarded to Esko athletes who overcame challenges and persevered through obstacles.) \$300 Matt Peterson

Esko Sports Alliance Scholarships applications are reviewed by Esko High School coaching staff and the Esko Sports Alliance Executive Board and selections are made by these groups (in consultation with namesake families in the case of memorial awards).



ESKO HOCKEY

REGISTRATION OPENS

AUGUST 1ST!



First year players are free!

Mini-Mite program available for beginners!

Players must be 4 by November 1st.

Early registration prices through September 15th.

FOR DETAILS AND TO REGISTER, GO TO

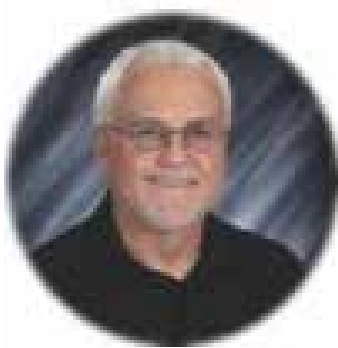
ESKOHOCKEY.COM

Questions? Email eskohockeyassociation@gmail.com



Esko Sports Alliance Inducts New Hall of Fame Class

On August 6, 2023 one individual and one team were entered into the Esko Sports Alliance Hall of Fame. They were selected for their memorable accomplishments and for the high standards they set in establishing or maintaining Esko’s nearly 100-year tradition of athletic excellence. Each inductee was introduced and presented a memento, followed by an opportunity for brief remarks. Their names and athletic accomplishments will now be memorialized at Esko High School. They were voted in by a community-wide selection committee following public nominations. The same process will be used for next year’s inductees and the deadline for submissions is October 31, 2023.



Kevin Lindell - 1976 Graduate of Esko High School

Kevin Lindell was a four-sport athlete at Esko. He quarterbacked the Esko State Championship Football Team in 1975. He was the place kicker who kicked a 35- yard winning field goal in game one of that season. Without that game winning kick, Esko would not have been eligible for the state tournament as it was based on a computer ranked system. Kevin ran for two TDs and threw for three TDs in the championship game. He played the game of his life.

Kevin was named second team All-State in 1975. Many who witnessed him play believed having played at such a high level, he should have been named first team. He ran the option perfectly and when he carried the football, he was very quick and elusive. He threw the ball with great precision.

As co-captain of Esko’s basketball Region 7A team, the Eskomos were runner-up his senior season. Once again, he used his quickness and agility to guide this successful team. At the time there was only a two-class system unlike today where there are four classes.

Kevin had great success for three seasons in track and field. After 47 years he still holds the Esko long jump record. Esko’s mile relay team, anchored by Kevin, won the 1976 State Class A Championship, and broke the school record. This relay team held this Esko record for 35 years.

Kevin attended Moorhead State his freshman year. He played quarterback on the football team and participated in track as well. At the Indoor Track NIC Conference Meet, Kevin placed third in the long jump and at the outdoor meet he placed second.

Kevin transferred to UMD his sophomore year and captained the track team his junior and senior year. He was a two-time NIC All Conference selection and All- American as a senior in the long jump. To this day, he holds the UMD outdoor long jump record at 23’ 9 1/2”.

Currently, Kevin is a science teacher and coach at Ada-Borup West High School - 36 years. Kevin has been the Head Girls’ Track coach, Head Boys’ Basketball coach, Head Girls’ Basketball coach and as of late the Head Boys’ Track and Field coach.

Kevin’s coaching career has included Conference/Subsection/Section Championships and State Appearances for Ada-Borup. He was named Section 8A Track and Field coach of the year four times. His teams have had all 18 Track and Field Events represented by athletes at the MN State Track and Field meet - 2 State Champions (Individual), 3 Runner-Ups (Individual), and several 3rd-9th places.

Kevin’s philosophy is “much of his coaching style/success has come from what I experienced/learned as a student athlete at Esko High School. I credit the teachers and coaches for taking talented athletes and molding them into championship teams.”

Also, Kevin says, “I am extremely fortunate to have been part of a strong athletic program with great teammates coached by knowledgeable and dedicated coaches! This is what became the foundation for my 35+ years of successful multisport coaching.”



Girl's 2012 State Cross Country Champions

Marisa Shady. One of four seniors to finish career with team state championship. She also has her individual CC championship. We would find her running distance workouts with the boy’s team.

Kallyn Knutson. Another senior finishing with a State CC championship. Kallyn could be seen on a summer run to Jay Cooke (4 miles from school, and back for 8 miles) in preparation for the season.

Molly Meysembourg. A third senior hanging her spikes on that state championship. Looking back at her career, she improved each year, saving her fastest running for her senior year.

Mackenzie Carlson. Our fourth senior that ran onto the team for her first and only year finding herself a state champion. A brilliant math student on this team as well as someone enjoying the team and distance running.

Erika Shady. A junior being a part of the championship with her elder sister. Erika as a track sprinter/ pole vaulter, tolerated distance running to be a vital ingredient for the success of this team.

Kailee Kiminski. A sophomore with talent and guts that gave this team another front runner. Kailee showed off a running talent as a sixth grader during a shuttle run in PE and blowing the top off this endurance challenge. “We better get her out for CC”.

Karlie Kulas. The stars aligned when this 8th grader joined CC. A solid 5th scoring runner on a CC team can be crucial, and she was that difference maker for us. Karlie would run Wednesday Elementary CC with toughness and grit. “Hope CC is in her future!”

Emily Rish. Alternative runner on this championship team. A consistent athlete at practice and meets, plus enjoying being part of this team accomplishment.

Hannah Erickson. Alternative runner making the trip to Northfield for this championship. Hannah embraced her role on the team and was proud of her teammates efforts that day. All women above are inducted by maiden name.

The Esko Sports Alliance Hall of Fame at a Glance

This year’s Hall of Famers were selected via public nominations followed by a review by the Sports Alliance Executive Board, and voting by an ad hoc committee. Serving on the selection committee were Chad Stoskopf, Sue Northey, Scott Antonutti, Desi DeLeon, Dennis Rengo, Todd Rengo and Russ Davidson.

Future inductees will be determined by the same procedure. Nominations for 2024 are due by October 31, 2023, and must be in writing, accompanied by adequate documentation.

Selections shall be made annually but, except for extenuating circumstances, no more than three members may be inducted in any year.

Candidates must have been affiliated with Esko High School at or before the time of their accomplishments and must have met certain standards of conduct and performance as described in the bylaws.

Athletes become eligible 10 years after high school graduation while coaches and athletic directors become eligible five years after completing service in Esko. Teams become eligible 10 years after their final season.

Special contributors, such as longtime devoted fans, school administrators, trainers, managers or members of the news media, may also be nominated based on length and degree of extraordinary service.

Inductees will be memorialized by recognition in a manner and place approved by the Esko School Board.

The School Board approved establishment of the Hall of Fame in 2017 but with the understanding that the Esko Sports Alliance is solely responsible for the selections.

To submit a Hall of Fame nomination, please see the ESA webpage on the Esko School website under Athletics or contact Chad Stoskopf at cstoskopf@esko.k12.mn.us or 218-879-1909.

The Esko Sports Alliance

The Sports Alliance, whose membership is free and open to anyone interested in Esko sports, is a nonprofit organization actively engaged in supporting Esko athletes and athletic programs.

Meetings, usually on weekday or Sunday evenings, are held monthly or as needed.

Its revenue is derived primarily from the sponsorship of events such as the Esko Sports Alliance/ Bob Thompson Memorial Golf Tournament in September at the Cloquet Country Club, the Coaches Classic Basketball Tournament in memory of Coach Jack Johnson and the Esko Invitational Showcase Track Meet.

With Esko boys and girls competing in 25 varsity sports, there is never a shortage of items on the working agenda.

In recent years, the Sports Alliance has, among other things, awarded eight annual college scholarships; purchased an all-weather tent for the cross country and track teams; provided special equipment for track and field; funded summer strength and agility training programs; contributed to postseason awards and banquets; acquired gym banners honoring champions in all sports; purchased online video/analysis software; enabled all teams to participate in the nationally recognized Positive Coaching Alliance and helped to acquire and install an overhead gym projector.

The Esko Sports Alliance continued to consider other projects that benefit Esko Athletics.

If you’d like to join, have questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Athletic Director Chad Stoskopf or members of the Alliance Board: Steve Knutson, Dennis Rengo, Scott Christiansen, Greg Hexum, or Desi DeLeon.

From Our School Board

Clerk’s Minutes

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular board meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.

Members present: Jerry Frederick, Todd Rengo, Leona Johnson, Steve McConnell, Margaret Sunnarborg, Rob Johnson, and Superintendent Aaron Fischer.

Call the Meeting to Order

Chairperson Jerry Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to approve the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- Approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023, regular School Board meeting.
- Checks.

Date	Check #s	Total
5/9/23	93703 Voided	(\$2,100.00)
5/9/23	94589-94657	\$214,890.47
5/18/23	94658-94702	\$73,993.15
5/24/23	94666 Voided	(\$400.00)
5/30/23	94703-94755	\$55,643.91
6/6/23	94756-94811	\$76,536.77

- Grant Received.
 - Essentia Health Grant for the School Readiness Discovery Program in the amount of \$3,000.00
- Personnel.
 - Tenure for Jeremy Zywicki effective 2023-2024.
 - Tenure for Nicole Biondich effective 2023-2024.
 - Tenure for Branda Thwaites effective 2023-2024.
 - Dismissal of probationary employment of Curt Calverly effective May 25, 2023.
 - Increase hours for Lisa Kruse, food service, from 5 hours to 5.5 hours per day effective September 5, 2023.
 - Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding Juneteenth holiday between AFSCME Council 65, Local 545 and ISD #99, Esko Schools.
- Donations.
 - Irving Community Association in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the Fishing Team.
 - Outdoor Advantage in the amount of \$200.00 for the Fishing Team.
 - First Thrivent in the amount of \$10,000.00 for Robotics.
 - Eileen Schantz-Hansen in the amount of \$100.00 for the School Forest.
 - Sam and Andrew Dammer in the amount of \$500.00 for the School Forest.
 - Anonymous in the amount of \$300.00 for lunch accounts.
- Resolution.
 - Resolution No. 2324-1 Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Master Lease Purchase Agreement with Apple Inc.
- Treasurer’s Report.
 - May 2023.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 99
ESKO, MINNESOTA
TREASURER’S CASH REPORT
Month Ending May 31 2023

Date of Report: 5/4/2023

FUND	BALANCE 4/30/2023	CASH RECEIPTS	CASH DISBURSEMENTS	PAYROLL	SUNDRY JOURNAL	BALANCE 5/31/2023
01 General	5,922,703.93	1,673,320.50	(524,727.01)	(473,424.62)	(1,069.91)	6,596,802.89
02 Food Service	452,091.27	73,718.93	(36,491.22)	(9,041.70)	129.84	480,407.12
03 Transportation	(91,146.10)	0.00	(15,339.34)	(19,465.41)	2,606.01	(123,344.84)
04 Community Service	401,550.12	69,769.44	(15,888.93)	(27,720.71)	0.00	427,909.92
05 Capital Expenditure	(124,873.50)	0.00	(7,606.46)	0.00	0.00	(132,479.96)
06 Building Construction	58,702.50	0.00	(7,346.07)	0.00	326.08	51,682.51
07 Debt Service	(233,176.34)	146,514.35	0.00		0.00	(86,661.99)
11 Student Activity	74,100.16	16,500.51	(7,246.39)	0.00	(1,901.35)	81,452.93
18 Custodial	(31,061.00)	31,061.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cash for reg. oper.	6,428,891.04	2,010,884.73	(614,445.42)	(529,652.44)	90.67	7,295,768.58
45 OPEB Trust	1,038,337.51	3,221.49	(4,103.39)	0.00	2,449.42	1,039,905.03
TOTAL District Cash	7,467,228.55	2,014,106.22	(618,548.81)	(529,652.44)	2,540.09	8,335,673.61

BANKS AMOUNT

National Bank of Commerce 378,315.67
Other Banks (CD's & MN Trust) 6,904,557.82

This report reflects CASH balances of the district, NOT fund balances. OPEB Trust 1,052,800.12, TOTAL OF BANK BAL. 8,335,673.61

Electronic Transfer Report	
May	
Date Account Transferred From	Account Transferred Into Amount
	05/11/23 PMA/Trust Account National Bank of Commerce
	\$500,000.00
Payrolls	
May	
Date Payroll Type	Check's Direct Deposits
	Electronic
	Payments Grand Total

05/15/23 regular 109239-109256 \$8,938.89 \$221,878.68 \$237,532.93 \$468,350.50					
05/31/23	Regular	109257-109275 \$10,810.46	\$235,472.82	\$245,038.11	\$491,321.39

Presentation: Esko Hockey Association’s Plan to Host a Dance during Esko Fun Days at the Sports Complex

The Esko Hockey Association presented a plan to host a dance for adults 21 and over during Esko Fun Days at the sports complex. A local establishment would provide the employees and necessary licenses.

Approve Esko Hockey Association’s Request to Host a Dance during Esko Fun Days at the Sports Complex

The board discussed the proposal from the Esko Hockey Association to host a dance during Esko Fun Days at the sports complex. The action failed for lack of a motion.

Approve the Termination of the Life Works Stand-Alone Plan

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to approve the termination of the Life Works stand-alone plan. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 2023-2024 Membership Renewal (Specific Services Contract) with Arrowhead Regional Computing Consortium

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the 2023-2024 membership renewal (Specific Services Contract) with Arrowhead Regional Computing Consortium. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 2023-2024 Resolution for Membership in the Minnesota State High School League

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Resolution for Membership in the Minnesota State High School League. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Resolution Certifying the Population Estimate for the 2023 Payable 2024 Levy

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Resolution Certifying the Population Estimate for the 2023 payable 2024 levy. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Comply with the New State Legislation that Requires School to Stop Using Names, Mascots, and Related Symbolism

Moved by Jerry Frederick, in order to comply with new State legislation that requires schools to discontinue the use of American Indian names, mascots, and related symbolism, I therefore motion that ISD 99, also known as Esko Public Schools, discontinue the use of “ESKOMO” and the related symbolism as of June 30, 2023, and to direct Superintendent Fischer and his staff to continue to gather information on requirements that must be met to comply with the new law, as further details become available from the State of Minnesota, in order to meet the deadline of September 1, 2025, as well as to gather the potential expenditures required by the district, to comply with these changes. Second by Todd Rengo. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Steve McConnell to approve the fiscal year 2024 budget. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Following Curriculum Purchases

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to approve the following curriculum purchases: • Amplify Science Curriculum at \$25,347.88.

- Math Expressions K-6 Curriculum at \$145,155.61 plus special education curriculum.
- Early Childhood Language Arts Curriculum at \$3,783.00.

Approve the Hire of John McGregor as a Two-Trip Bus Driver Effective the 2023-2024 School Year

Moved by Rob Johnson, second by Leona Johnson to approve the hire of John McGregor as a two-trip bus driver effective the 2023-2024 school year, clear background check on file. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Following Community Education Hires

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Todd Rengo to approve the following Community Education hires: • Sarah Audette as a Cool Kids program assistant at a rate of \$15.69 per hour, clear background check on file.

- Stella Haugen as a student Cool Kids program assistant at a rate of \$13.66 per hour. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Macoy Rudolph as a Special Education Instructor

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the hire of Macoy Rudolph as a special education instructor, beginning the 2023-2024 school year at a BA30 Step 2, pending return of a clear background check. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Lorelei Holland as a Vocal Music/Choir Director

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to approve the hire of Lorelei Holland as a vocal music/choir director, beginning the 2023-2024 school

From Our School Board

year at an MA Step 1, pending return of a clear background check. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Tammy Thornton, Elementary Instructor

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to accept a letter of resignation from Tammy Thornton, elementary instructor, effective June 8, 2023, with permission to post the position. The Board thanks her for her years of service to the District. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation by Retirement from Gayle Disch, Food Service

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to accept a letter of resignation by retirement from Gayle Disch, food service, effective June 7, 2023, with permission to post the position. The Board thanks her for her years of service to the District. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Samantha Dammer, Cool Kids Program Assistant

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Todd Rengo to accept a letter of resignation from Samantha Dammer, Cool Kids program assistant, effective August 22, 2023. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Administrative Reports:

- Principals' Reports:
- Elementary School: Mr. Harker reported on the following:
- New math curriculum for 2023-2024 – replaced last in 2011
- High School: Mr. Hexum reported on the following:
- New science curriculum – training for staff has already started

Board Committee Reports:

- Jerry Frederick: Graduation, Facilities Meeting, Retirement Luncheon, Tech Committee, MSBA Zoom Meetings
- Leona Johnson: Graduation, Retirement Luncheon, Curriculum Committee, Community Education Meeting
- Rob Johnson: Graduation
- Margaret Sunnarborg: Town Board Meeting
- Todd Rengo: MSHSL Regional Meeting, NLSEC
- Steve McConnell: Facilities Meeting, Retirement Luncheon, State Track Meet

Superintendent's Report:

- Supt. Aaron Fischer:
- Mr. Fischer reported on the current enrollment numbers and the district getting in compliance with the many legislative changes. Also, thank you to everyone that helped make the staff recognition luncheon a success. As well as Fitness Center updates: Fencing has been put up around the construction site and is scheduled to start June 19, 2023.

Congratulations and Commendations

- Thank you and Congratulations to the following:
- Mike's Café & Pizzeria for catering the retirement luncheon
 - Greg Hexum, Nikki Peterson, Gavin Johnson and the custodial staff for Graduation 2023
 - Gina Zezulka and committee for the All Night Grad Party
 - Successful season for spring sports
 - Steve Krueger and the success of the school forest

Adjournment

- There being no further business, moved by Jerry Frederick, second by Steve McConnell to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- Steve McConnell
- Clerk

Clerk's Minutes

- The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular board meeting on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.
- Members present: Jerry Frederick, Todd Rengo, Leona Johnson, Steve McConnell, Margaret Sunnarborg, Rob Johnson, and Superintendent Aaron Fischer.

Call the Meeting to Order

- Chairperson Jerry Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

- Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the agenda as amended and remove item 14. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Leona Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- Approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023, regular School Board meeting.
- Checks.

Date	Check #s	Total
6/12/23	94812-94813	\$3,109.00
6/21/23	94814-94880	\$236,946.39
6/28/23	94881-94907	\$25,934.41

Personnel.

- Increase in hours for Kari Ritchie, Food Service, from her current 3.5 hour position to the vacant 5.5 hour per day position, beginning the 2023-2024 school year.
 - Change of assignment for Charlotte Franck from Housekeeper to Maintenance/Custodian with a rate change from \$16.46 per hour to \$21.10 per hour, effective July 11, 2023.
- Donations.
 - Big Rock Sports Conservation Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Fishing Team.

Approve Ticket Prices, Athletic Fees and Passes

- Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve presented prices for the following:

- Single event adult ticket \$6.00 – available at event
- Single event student ticket \$4.00 - available at event
- Adult 10-game punch pass \$50.00 – available in the District Office and Athletic Office
- Student 10-game punch pass \$25.00 - available in the District Office and Athletic Office
- Senior Citizen pass (Esko Resident age 65 or older) Free pass – available in the High School Office
- All ISD #99 Staff - Free pass - available in the High School Office
- Streaming Video Fee \$10.00
- Category I Athletic Fee \$175.00
- Category II Athletic Fee \$100.00
- Category III Athletic Fee \$85.00
- Student Fee Max for Senior High Activities \$350.00
- Student Fee Max for Junior High Activities \$200.00

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Sports Parent Handbook

- Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Sports Parent Handbook with revision to add purchasing location for event punch cards. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Coaches Handbook

- Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Coaches Handbook. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Presentation by ICS

- ICS presented updates on the progress of the Fitness Center Project including possible exterior and interior color schemes and lettering design.

Approve Fitness Center Items Presented by ICS

- Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to approve the Neutral Option as the interior color scheme. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Blue/Gray option as the exterior color scheme and wait until the Fall to approve the lettering design. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Bus Purchase

- Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to approve a bus purchase at a cost of up to \$150,000.00. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Emergency Response Guide

- Move by Steve McConnell, second by Leona Johnson to approve the Emergency Response Guide. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Following Handbooks for the 2023/2024 School Year

- Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the following handbooks for the 2023/2024 school year.
- Food Service Handbook
 - Community Education Handbook
 - Cool Kids Handbook
 - Preschool Parent Handbook
 - Transportation Handbook
- Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Substitute Pay Rates for the 2023/2024 School Year

- Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Todd Rengo to approve a substitute pay rate increase effective July 11, 2023, from \$13.50 to \$14.50 for substitutes in the following positions: paraprofessionals, custodial, food service, Cool Kids and ECFE/SR program assistants. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Authorize Administration to Call for Quotes for Purchase and Delivery of Bread and Milk Products for 2023/2024

- Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to authorize administration to call for quotes for purchase and delivery of bread and milk products. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Authorize Administration to Call for Quotes on #1 and #2 Diesel Fuel, Gasoline, and Propane for 2023/2024

From Our School Board/Around Town

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to authorize administration to call for quotes on #1 and #2 diesel fuel, gasoline, and propane for 2023/2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Authorize Administration to Call for Quotes on Snow Removal for 2023/2024

Moved by Rob Johnson, second by Leona Johnson to authorize administration to call for quotes on snow removal for 2023/2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 10-Year Long Term Facilities Maintenance Plan

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the 10-Year Long Term Facilities Maintenance Plan. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Allison Dillon, NLSEC Special Education Coordinator

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to accept a letter of resignation from Allison Dillon, NLSEC Special Education Coordinator, effective June 30, 2023. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Following Hires Starting the 2023/2024 School Year

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Margaret Sunnarborg to approve the following hires starting the 2023/2024 school year:

- Jake Anderson, Special Education Teacher at a BA Step 5, clear background check on file.
 - Danielle Gamache in Food Service, for 3.5 hours per day at a rate of \$17.67 per hour, clear background check on file.
 - Lisa Lillie, Elementary Teacher at a possible MA Step 4, pending a meeting with Superintendent Fischer and return of a clear background check. The Board will revisit Step and Lane at the August board meeting.
- Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Administrative Reports:

Principals’ Reports:
Elementary School: Mr. Harker reported on the following: Teacher vacancies have been filled
Working on Para vacancies
2023/2024 Kindergarten numbers at 88 students
High School: Mr. Hexum reported on the following: 2023/2024 Handbooks will have many changes
Congratulations to the Esko Baseball Team for being State Champions and Academic Champions

Board Committee Reports:

Jerry Frederick: Town Board Meeting
Rob Johnson: Reminder of Golf Tournament on September 12, 2023
Margaret Sunnarborg: Town Board Meeting, EEF Meeting, Reminder of Burkholder 5k on August 5, 2023

Superintendent’s Report:

Supt. Aaron Fischer:
Mr. Fischer reported on the following:
Negotiations are getting started
Working on replacement cost for igloo logo
Work Session in August or September to discuss the Esko’s Corner
Corner sign – Daktronics was not able to fix it
Solar Project update – the State has requested more soil samples
Highway 61 Parking Lot – soil testing was done as requested by the State

Congratulations and Commendations

Thank you and Congratulations to the following:
State Champions – Baseball Team
Gavin Johnson – Emergency Response Guide
Chad Stoskopf – Sports Parent Handbook

Adjournment

There being no further business, moved by Steve McConnell, second by Leona Johnson to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
Steve McConnell
Clerk

MINUTES TOWN BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2023

RESCHDULED FROM APRIL 20 DUE TO WEATHER/NO POWER

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, Dave Pritchett
Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Jon Bouvine, Joe Jurewicz, Kyle Gustafson

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.
Compo made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Hill. Motion Carried.

Hill made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 68,357.53 (Check #'s 48432-48464) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 8,397.96. Second by Gerard. Motion Carried.

March receipts in the amount of \$ 34,139.36 and March fund balances were reviewed.

Bouvine provided information on the costs of leasing vs purchasing a backhoe. He’s not able to get quotes from different John Deere dealers since they each cover only specific territory. The prices he’s gotten are off the State bid. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Hill to trade in the old backhoe and purchase a John Deere 410 Backhoe in the amount of \$ 166,300. Motion carried.

The American Rescue Plan Act funding was discussed. Peleski provided a breakdown of what has been spent, what has been designated for future projects and what is remaining. The Board will need to decide how to spend the remaining balance of \$ 277,595 by December 31, 2024. All money will need to be spent by December 31, 2026. The work session will be on Monday, May 8 at 9:00 am.

Sunnarborg has agreed to fill the position of Carlton County representative on the Cloquet Area Fire District Board. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Hill to submit Sunnarborg’s name as the representative. Motion carried. CAFD fire chief, Jesse Buhs, will notify the County Auditor to schedule an election with Twin Lakes Township.

Five bids were received for the E. Riverside Road/Serenity Way paving project. Ulland Brothers submitted the low bid. Jurewicz has examined all bids and is making the recommendation to accept both the initial bid and bid alternate # 1 to complete the project and also pave Northridge Park parking lot. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Gerard to award the E. Riverside/Serenity way project in the amount of \$ 330,670 and Bid Alternate # 1 in the amount of \$ 73,194 to Ulland Brothers. Motion carried.

Pykkonen provided pricing from VC3 to implement multi-factor authentication. This would’ve happened by the end of the year but with the new Tyler software it needs to be implemented now. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Gerard to approve the quote from VC3 in the amount of \$ 4,417. Motion carried.

Pykkonen also needs approval to move forward with the new card processing. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Compo to move forward with the new credit card processing so the new utility billing software can be implemented. Motion carried.

Heavy Equipment Operator Derek Ziegler has given his letter of resignation. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Sunnarborg to accept the resignation and thank him for the work he’s done. Motion carried.

Peleski and Bouvine asked the Board to review the current job description for the position. It was

suggested that the requirement for a Class A license be changed to “able to obtain within one year of employment”. Compo asked that it not be changed. The requirements for acquiring a Class A license have changed and additional schooling is required. It was also suggested that the expectation of on-call weekends on a rotating schedule be added. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Sunnarborg to add on-call weekends to the job description. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on reestablishing the Park Board. Pykkonen has reached out to those that previously showed an interest. All are still interested. A representative from the Ridge Road neighborhood is needed. Gerard will make inquiries in that area.

Gustafson, along with other staff, have been working on answering questions for the Essentia project. Zoning Official Dan Stangle has been working on assigning addresses within Jay Cooke State Park. Not all locations are within Thomson Township. He is coordinating this with park staff, Carlton County GIS, and area fire departments.

Bouvine gave his public works report. They continue to work on flood damaged roads. Culverts have been ordered for the E. Riverside/Serenity Way project. He will be meeting with the insurance adjuster for the damage to the Sterling dump truck. He continues to work on OSHA safety grants as time allows.

Jurewicz reported that the Town was not awarded a grant from WLSSD.

Gerard continues to work on cleaning up the tree damage along the walking trails.

Janke is speaking with area realtors regarding Town ordinance No. 44 which requires sewer lateral inspections at point of sale.

The meeting with residents in the Randall Ave. area regarding sewer issues will be rescheduled for May 18 at 5:30 or at the close of the regular meeting. Letters will be sent to those involved.

Sunnarborg reported on the Carlton County Association of Town Officers meeting that was held recently. Carlton County outlined their 5-year plan for road improvements. Culvert replacement on Highway 61 should begin in 2026 but the schedule subject to change. Ten barrels and ten cones can be ordered through Carlton County.

Sunnarborg also spoke about projects at the Town Hall which include new door stops and removing a small refrigerator. New first aid kits and eyewash stations are needed at the Town Hall and Town Garage.

Peleski reported that the annual report on ARPA funds and how they were spent was submitted on April 27.

At 5:34 a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Sunnarborg to close the regular meeting to discuss the sale of real estate and discuss negotiations with IUOE Local 49. Motion carried.

At 5:59 a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Sunnarborg to reopen the regular meeting. Motion carried.

Hill made a motion to approve the amendment to the recently signed purchase agreement due diligence addendum for the sale of two lots in the Esko Business Park. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Compo with a second by Hill to add the wording to both the job description and the job posting regarding the heavy equipment operator position being represented by IUOE Local 49. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:01 p.m. by Hill with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

Around Town

MAY 4, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, David Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Joe Jurewicz

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.
Sunnarborg made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 55,905.16 (Check #'s 48465-48512) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 11,318.05. Second by Hill. Motion carried.

A notice was received from Carlton Ambulance regarding their next meeting with those in their ambulance coverage area. It will be held on Thursday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will be posted.

A notice was received from Essentia regarding a breakfast they are hosting for area community leaders. It will be held on Wednesday, May 17 from 7:15 a.m. until 8:30 a.m.

Discussion was held on Town Ordinance No. 44 which regulates inflow and infiltration compliance. Janke has been speaking to area realtors regarding possible changes to the ordinance. This will be discussed again at a future meeting. Pritchett will review the ordinance.

Two quotes for geotechnical work and compaction testing for the E. Riverside Road project were received. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Compo to approve the quote from EPC Engineering and Testing in the amount of \$ 2,633. Motion carried.

Four residents representing a group that would like to erect a domed multi-sport complex were present to discuss their project with the Board. They've studied the need for such a facility in this area and would like to see it located within walking distance of the school. Their goal is to complete the project with donations, similar to when turf was installed at the athletic field. They're looking for land that can be purchased or donated. The facility would operate on money received from renting to area sports groups. Esko teams would be the priority. The Town Board had no suggestions for possible locations but most members indicated support for the project. It was suggested the group speak to the school board to see if they'd support the project.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to support the renewal of the liquor license for Esko Liquor Store. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to support the renewal of the liquor license for Mike's Pizzeria and Café. Motion carried. The same conditions would apply as with previous renewals.

The OSHA grant application for a trench box is still being completed. The Board instructed that the trench box should be ordered immediately instead of waiting for the grant.

Pykkonen reported that there is now a resident in the Ridge Road area that is willing to serve on the Park Board. The first meeting is still being scheduled.

Jurewicz submitted his report. The water testing has been done for the municipal water study. Still waiting for results. A culvert serving the Maple Drive area is still causing some issues. Jurewicz was authorized to get a quote to have the culvert televised by Great Lakes Pipe. The location of the culvert at the railroad crossing on E. Stark Road has not yet been surveyed.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:08 p.m. by Gerard with a second by Hill. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

MAY 18, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, Dave Pritchett

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Dan Stangle, Jon Bouvine, Joe Jurewicz, Kyle Gustafson, Casey Rennquist

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.
Gerard made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Compo. Motion Carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount \$ 37,108.39 (Check #'s 48514-48546, void 48513) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 7,715.68. Second by Hill. Motion Carried.

April receipts in the amount of \$ 42,357.40 and April fund balances were reviewed.

A thank you was received from Esko Softball for the Town's contribution to that program.

Discussion was held on the remaining ARPA funds and how they would be spent. Several ideas were shared at the recent work session. Purchasing a new Town staff vehicle was one of the suggestions. A SUV was found that fit the Town's needs, however it was sold before any action could be taken. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Sunnarborg to authorize Compo, Bouvine and Peleski to move forward if another similar vehicle becomes available. The amount shall not exceed \$ 45,000. Motion carried.

Sewer Ordinance No. 44 will be reviewed by Janke, Sunnarborg, Pritchett and Jurewicz for possible changes. A meeting will be scheduled for that group for June 2 at 9:00 am.

Two estimates were received for painting the Town Board room and other rooms at the Town Hall. Both came in over \$ 18,000. One more estimate will be obtained before a decision is made.

A work session to continue discussion on the ARPA funding will be held on Tuesday, June 6 at 9:30 a.m.

Deputy Casey Rennquist gave his report for April. He responded to 83 calls for service. Other deputies responded to 63 additional calls.

Jurewicz gave his report. The contract with Ulland Brothers has been signed. That paving project will start soon. The sewer lining work at Highway 61 and Thomson /Canosia Roads will begin soon.

Bouvine reported that the backhoe has been ordered and should be ready in the fall. The trench box has been purchased. The Sterling truck is being totaled by the Town's insurance provider. It's not known yet what the amount will be.

Pykkonen and Jurewicz reported on the first meeting of the Park Board. The group is looking for more direction from the Town Board regarding what their purpose is. Pykkonen will be sending a survey out to the group to see who would like to fill the leadership positions.

Sunnarborg gave his report on projects he's working on at the Town Hall. He also recently attended his first Cloquet Area Fire District meeting as a CAFD Board member.

At 5:25 a motion was made by Hill with a second by Gerard to close the meeting to discuss progress being made on the sale of real estate. Motion carried.

At 5:30 a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Sunnarborg to reopen the meeting. Motion carried.

Sunnarborg made a motion with a second by Hill to approve the second amendment to the recently signed purchase agreement due diligence addendum for the sale of two lots in the Esko Business Park. Motion carried.

Residents from Randall Avenue were present for an update on the sewer line issues in that area. Jurewicz shared with them the results of the televising that was recently done and possible solutions. This will continue to be worked on.

At 6:13 a motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Compo to close the regular meeting to discuss the negotiations with IUOE Local 49. Motion carried.

At 6:33 a motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Hill to reopen the regular meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:33 p.m. by Hill with a second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

JUNE 1, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, David Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Dan Stangle, Joe Jurewicz, Kyle Gustafson

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.
Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Hill. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 11,335.82 (Check #'s 48547-48587) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 13,579.85. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

No progress has been made on the Private Road and Private Driveway ordinances due to other projects taking precedence. A meeting will be scheduled with staff, the Town engineer, and legal counsel to continue reviewing the public comments received.

Cheri Olson from RAM Community Involvement Committee was present to inquire if the Board would allow employees of RAM to do some work in Northridge Park. They'd like to place mulch around the playground equipment, replace the canopy on the equipment and stain the pavilion. The labor would be volunteer if the Town would pay for the supplies. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Sunnarborg for the Town to purchase the materials for the projects. Motion carried.

Around Town

Jim Kuklis was present to address the Board regarding a development he’s been working on. It will be 13 lots with some for single family and some duplexes. At a previous concept meeting with staff, he was asked to extend the sewer line to the edge of the property which would be 50’ to 100’. There is a private lateral line that runs through his property and serves two residences. This extension would allow the services to be relocated to the new extension. He’s hoping the Town will cover the cost of this extension to the property line. Discussion was held on whether there is an easement for the private line, the condition of the private line, and time-line for the project.

He was also asked to consider designating a portion that runs along the Midway River as public space for a future walkway. Both issues will be discussed again as the project progresses.

A meeting will be scheduled with Architectural Resources Inc. to review the public works space study. Janke, Compo, Bouvine, Peleski and Jurewicz will attend.

Pykkonen reported that a soft launch has been done with the permitting aspect of the new software.

Maggie Sunnarborg from the Esko School Board was present with an update. The school is required to change its mascot name.

The E. Riverside Road/Serenity Lane project has begun. Northridge Park parking lot will also be paved.

The emergency sewer repair from 2022 is now complete. The section was lined last week, and the grouting was complete this week.

Stangle provided his monthly report. There were three new home permits issued. There have been eight so far this year. He continues to work on blighted properties and the issues with not being able to issue e-citations.

Gustafson reported on fire department activities. They had 12 calls over Memorial Day weekend. Because it was a holiday weekend and staffing was anticipated to be short, they worked with Carlton and Wrenshall. All departments provided mutual aid on all calls.

Discussion was held on the recent park board meeting. Pykkonen will be sending out a survey in the hopes that some in the group will take over leadership roles. Both short-range and long-range projects will be considered.

Janke reported on the recent Carlton Ambulance meeting. They are putting an advisory committee together which will made up of representatives from the various townships that they serve.

Sunnarborg reported on the projects at the town hall that he’s been working on. He has one quote for mold removal in the town hall garage. He’s also been working on the community garden area with mowing and trimming. The garden will be one of the stops for this year’s Master Gardener’s tour.

At 5:47 a motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to close the regular meeting to discuss the negotiations with IUOE Local 49. Motion carried.

At 5:58 a motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to reopen the regular meeting. Motion carried.

Hill asked whether Compo should be voted on as an alternate to represent the Town at the Carlton Ambulance meetings. The decision was made to not officially appoint him but he will continue to attend the meeting along with Hill.

Peleski reported that about 12 applications have been received for the vacant heavy equipment operator position. Applications will be accepted until June 9.

No further information has been received on the Sterling truck that is deemed totaled by the insurance carrier.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:02 p.m. by Compo with a second by Hill. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

JUNE 15, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Tony Compo, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, Dave Pritchett
Absent: Terry Hill
Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Dan Stangle, Jon Bouvine, Joe Jurewicz, Kyle Gustafson, Casey Rennquist

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Sunnarborg made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Compo. Motion Carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount \$ 153,365.77 (Check #'s 48588-48635, void 48614, 48615) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 7,609.91. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion Carried.

May receipts in the amount of \$ 72,143.81 and May fund balances were reviewed.

Three estimates were received for painting the Town Board room and other rooms

at the Town Hall. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Sunnarborg to award the project to the low estimate, Lake Superior Painting, in the amount of \$ 8,246.00. Motion carried.

Three quotes were received for removing the mold in the garage at the Town Hall. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to award the project to Kinnunen Enterprises in the amount of \$ 2,750.00. Motion carried. This is for removal only. The garage will still need to be treated in a separate process.

Heather Wright, owner of NorthStar Community Services was present to introduce herself and explain the programs she offers and clients she serves. There have been neighborhood concerns with a residence she operates in the township. She encouraged neighbors to bring their concerns to her.

East Riverside Road residents, John and Melinda Beare, were present to discuss the paving project and assessments on

E. Riverside Road. The current pavement ends just past their driveway. It’s been determined that their culvert does not need to be replaced. They are questioning what benefit they will have from the new paving and why they will be included in the assessment process. Pritchett and Jurewicz explained the assessment process. The assessment rolls and final assessment amounts won’t be determined until all expenses are paid. Residents will be notified at that time if they are included in the assessment rolls or not. Their situation will be taken into consideration.

Discussion was held on whether Esko Soccer would be able to use Northridge Park for soccer games. The Board was receptive to allowing games. This will be discussed again when soccer representatives are in attendance.

A Computer Use Policy was distributed for the Board to review. It will be on the next agenda for adoption.

Town staff has been working on approving the building permit application for Essentia. Jurewicz wanted the Board to be aware that he is reviewing the grading permit portion of the permit so dirt work can begin.

Gustafson reported that the fire department is now hiring Fire Catt to inspect the fire hose. It saves the department time which can now be spent on training. The ladder truck failed its most recent annual inspection and is currently out of service. There is a part on order.

Deputy Rennquist responded to 82 calls for service in May. The other County deputies responded to 40 calls.

Bouvine provided his report. The new trench box was received. The original Chev Blazer that the Town was going to purchase has not been released to the Fridley dealership yet. Another Blazer is available and is \$ 2,000 lower in price. It will be delivered next week.

Stangle addressed the accusations made against him earlier in the meeting which were based on secondhand information and not accurate. He stated he has and will always work to do what’s best for the residents of the township.

Maggie Sunnarborg and Jerry Frederick were present from the school board. The Esko boys will be playing for the State baseball championship on Saturday. Esko will be changing their mascot name from the Eskomos.

Frederick also addressed the Board regarding concerns he has with the lack of recreational space that the Town provides.

Pykkonen reported on the Park Board and those that are willing to take a leadership role on that board. The permitting software project continues to move forward. There was a soft launch that seems to be going smoothly.

East Riverside Road paving will be done in two weeks. Jurewicz was asked to provide a rough estimate for extending the trail on Canosia Road. The rough estimate is about

\$ 200,000. This would run from the football field to the Town Hall. Representatives from the Community Partnership Committee were present to request if the Esko Fun Days dance could be held at Northridge Park or Town Hall. The item will be added to the next agenda for further discussion.

Gerard received tree seedlings from the DNR that he will plant at Northridge and along the river.

A Larson Road resident was present to address the Board regarding a blighted property on Larson Road. He has been working with Stangle since 2020 in hopes that the parcel would be cleaned up. Because of the problems with not being able to issue e-citations through the court system, nothing has changed. Attorney Bill Helwig has been working with County and State personnel and they have not been able to fix the problem. Stangle spoke to staff from the State Court system to no avail. Pritchett will schedule a meeting with Representative Jeff Dotseth to see if there’s anything that he can assist with in setting the Town up for e-citations.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:10 p.m. by Compo with a second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

JULY 6, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett
Absent: David Sunnarborg
Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Joe Jurewicz

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Hill. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Compo with a second by Gerard to approve pay application # 1 from Ulland Brothers in the amount of \$ 139,914.10. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$ 329,442.17 (Check #'s 48636-48680) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 10,359.79. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Notification was received from Minnesota Department of Management and Budget that the Town is in compliance with the Local Government Pay Equity Act.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to approve the Computer Use Policy as presented. Motion carried. Acknowledgement of this policy must be signed by all employees and Board members.

Stephanie Kantola and Chris Anton from Esko Hockey were present to discuss a location for the upcoming street dance being held during Esko Fun Days. After discussion it was decided that Northridge Park would be the best place to hold the dance. They plan on having food trucks in an area separate from where alcohol is being served.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Gerard to waive ordinance # 28 and allow alcohol to be sold at Northridge Park for the street dance on Saturday, August 5th, 2023. Motion carried.

One estimate was received for work to be done at Northridge Park. A second estimate will be obtained.

A second electronic sign quote was received. Discussion was held on location and service after installation. This was tabled.

Two quotes were received for dust control. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to award the 2023 dust control to Jake's Companies in the amount of \$ 1.30 per gallon. Motion carried.

Notification was received from WLSSD regarding the Town's 2022-23 annual inflow/infiltration and F.O.G. report. A score of 9 was received which means the Town is in compliance.

A work session is scheduled for Monday, July 31 at 9:00 a.m.

Pykkonen provided a list of people interested in being a member of the park board. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to appoint the following residents to the park board: Jerry Moran (Chair), , Cassie Janke (Secretary/Vice Chair), Brande Seguin, Amna Hanson, Irene Rudnicki, Andrew Pykkonen, Katie Pease (alternate Secretary/Vice Chair), Logan Saline (alternate). Motion carried. Michele Carlson, Leah Pykkonen, and Bill Gerard will be non-voting members of the Board.

The park board by-laws will be reviewed for the next Town Board meeting.

Jurwicz updated the Board on the E. Riverside/Serenity Road paving project. Stormwater pond inspections are being done. The stormwater culvert on Maple Drive has been televised.

Gerard has been planting the seedlings he received from the DNR.

Compo reported that the ladder portion of the ladder truck is no longer working. The truck can still be used for blocking traffic and for carrying equipment. Future discussions will need to be held on replacing it.

Soccer will be providing a list of dates that they would like to use Northridge Park.

At 5:52 a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Hill to close the meeting to discuss progress being made on the sale of real estate. Motion carried.

At 5:58 a motion was made by Gerard with a second by Compo to reopen the meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Compo with a second by Hill to approve the cancellation of the purchase agreement. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:00 p.m. by Hill with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

JULY 20, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, Dave Pritchett
Absent: Terry Hill, Tony Compo

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Joe Jurewicz, Kyle Gustafson, Casey Rennquist

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Gerard made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Janke. Motion Carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount \$ 53,837.92 (Check #'s 48681-48722, void 48685, 48689) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 9,113.55. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion Carried.

June receipts in the amount of \$ 59,480.00 and June fund balances were reviewed.

The bylaws for the Park Board were reviewed. Janke requested changes be made to the section explaining appointment of officers.

Janke gave a thank you to Kathy and Olli Rahkola for the work they've done in the community garden.

School Board member Maggie Sunnarborg reported that the school broke ground on the new fitness center.

Pykkonen continues to work with the new software implementation.

Deputy Casey Rennquist gave his report for June. There were 119 calls for services. He responded to 56 of those calls.

Jurewicz reported that Northridge Park parking lot has been paved. It was witnessed that people were driving into the park on the pedestrian walking path. Barrels have been put up until a permanent solution is installed. It will be striped in the next week. The pedestrian crossing sign and crosswalk should be installed by the end of the month.

The DNR permit has been approved for the replacing of a culvert on Marks Road by the Midway River. Three quotes will be obtained for that work.

The Fire Department is preparing for National Night Out and Esko Fun Days. Gustafson will be having "no parking" signs be posted at the Fire Hall. With limited parking at the school this has now become an issue. He'd also like to have "No Parking" painted on the blacktop. Jurewicz will follow up with the contractor that did the sealcoating.

Gerard has been working in the park preparing for Esko Fun Days.

The mold issue in the garage at the Town Hall is being taken care of. One quote was received for gutters on the garage. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to approve the quote in the amount of \$ 750.00 from North Country Gutters. Motion carried.

Sunnarborg has also been spraying weeds at the Town Hall. He'll then spray by the Town signs and along the parade route.

Sunnarborg attended a CAFD meeting. They are changing to a new billing company which will enable them to have better breakdowns of ambulance billing and revenues.

Gerard pointed out that Commissioner Marv Bodie has been mowing along the Canosia Road trail.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:25 p.m. by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

DOGS AND CATS

Thomson Township has a leash - running at large ordinance. This applies to all areas of the Township. All animals must be under their owner's control at all times and not on neighboring properties.

And as a reminder: Please pick up after your pet. Your neighbors appreciate it. There's also a link to a video on the Town website: thomson.govoffice.com with more information on the effects of animal waste on the local waterways.



Church News

APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH

25 Church Road Esko, MN 55733
(PH: 879-3882)
Pastor Nathan Juntunen
Website: www.esko-apostolic.org
E-mail: eskoapostolic@msn.com

September Worship Schedule

Sundays (Starting September 10th):
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship Service – All Ages
* 1st & 3rd Sunday - Holy Communion
11 AM-Noon Coffee & Fellowship

Tuesdays (Starting September 12th):
8:00 AM Men’s Fellowship

Wednesdays (Starting September 13th):
9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study - “Perplexing Proverbs” Bible study series.
All are welcome!
5:30 PM Supper
6:15-7 PM Activities for all ages:
Youth Group: Pre-School - 12th Grade
Adult Bible Study
Thursdays:
9 AM-3 PM Quilting
(2nd & 4th Thurs.)

- Events:
- September 22nd - 24th: Fall Youth Rally at Lahti Retreat Center in Rabbit Bay, MI. 6th Grade and older are welcome. We would like to invite you and your friends to come and share in fellowship, praising, & worshiping our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Theme verse: John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” Registration & permission slips: www.lahtiretreatcenter.come/infhome.
 - September 29th - October 1st: Lahti Ladies Weekend at Lahti Retreat Center in Rabbit Bay, MI. Registration: www.lahtiretreatcenter.come/infhome.

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(PH: 879-3882)
Pastor Nathan Juntunen
Website: www.esko-apostolic.org
E-mail: eskoapostolic@msn.com

October Worship Schedule

Sundays (1, 8, 15, 22, 29):
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship Service – All Ages
*(1st & 3rd Sundays - Holy Communion)
11 AM-Noon Coffee & Fellowship

Tuesdays (3, 10, 17, 24, 31):
8:00 AM Men’s Fellowship

Wednesdays (4, 11, 18, 25):
9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study
5:30 PM Supper
6:15-7 PM Activities for all ages:
Youth Group: Pre-School - 12th Grade
Adult Bible Study

APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH

25 Church Road Esko, MN 55733
(PH: 879-3882)
Pastor Nathan Juntunen
Website: www.esko-apostolic.org
E-mail: eskoapostolic@msn.com

November Worship Schedule

Sundays (5, 12, 19, 26):
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship Service – All Ages
*(1st & 3rd Sundays - Holy Communion)
11 AM-Noon Coffee & Fellowship

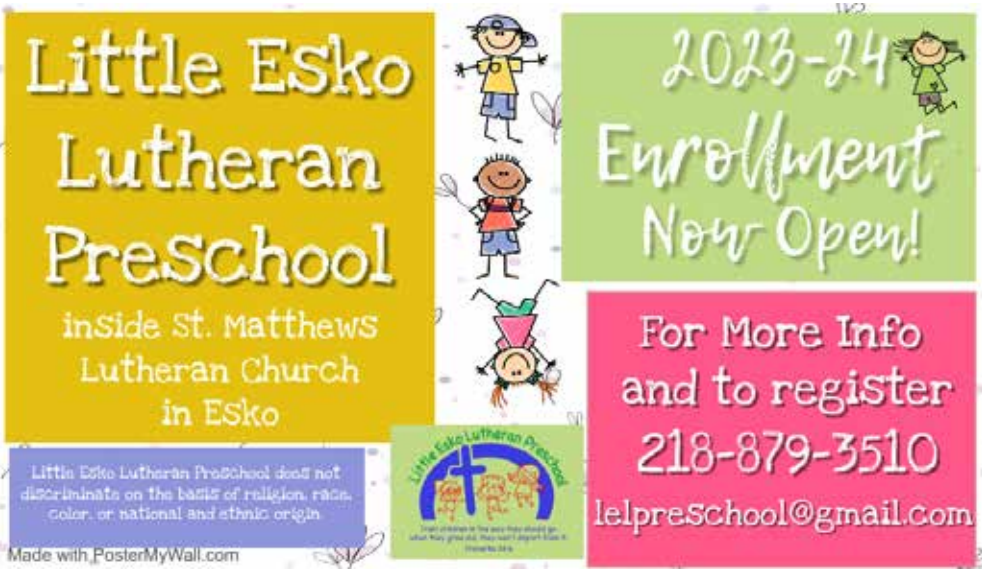
***NOTE* November 5th, Daylight Saving Time Ends**

Tuesdays (7, 14, 21, 28):
8:00 AM Men’s Fellowship

Wednesdays (1, 8, 15, *22, *29):
9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study
5:30 PM Supper
6:15-7 PM Activities for all ages:
Youth Group: Pre-School - 12th Grade
Adult Bible Study

- *November 22nd, 6:30 PM: Thanksgiving Eve Service (No other activities)
*November 29th, 6:30 PM: Advent Services begin

✠ Check out our Church website at www.esko-apostolic.org. There are pictures, upcoming events, bulletins, church calendar, cemetery information and more!



Church News

ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH

and Little Esko Lutheran Preschool
4 Elizabeth Avenue - Esko, MN 55733
218.879.3510 - www.stmatthewsesko.org
lcpreschool@gmail.com

Pastor Marty Mably

A family of believers grounded in, growing in and reaching out in Christ

Sundays

9 am Worship (thru Sunday, September 10th)

8 and 10:30 am Worship (beginning Sunday, September 17th)

9 am online worship visit www.stmatthewsesko.org
(10:30 beginning September 17th)

9:30 am TV Option Channel 6 (KBJR) airs
"My Savior Lives"

WEEKLY:

Tuesdays: Coffee w/the Pastor 9 am via Facebook

Thursdays: Experience Recovery 6 pm

UPCOMING:

Registration for Little Esko Lutheran Preschool – ongoing, please visit the preschool page of our website

Rally Day! Sunday September 10th

9 am Worship

10:15 am Education time

11 am Carnival – BBQ & Ice Cream

Rummage Sale

Thursday, September 14th 9 am – 5 pm

Friday, September 15th 8 am – 4pm

Fall Harvest Dinner – October – check our website for details

Trunk or Treat – Tuesday, October 31st 5:30-6:30 pm

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22nd 6:30 pm

Silent Auction Sunday, December 3rd

10 am – 12:30 pm (In person only this year)

Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 6th

For additional information and updates, check www.stmatthewsesko.org or Facebook



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

The Eager Eskomos Home Study Group would like to thank all the Thomson Township residents that participated in the Spring rummage sales over the last 47 years.

We are very fortunate to have St. Matthews Youth group organize these sales in the future. Look for their ad in the Spring edition of the Esko's Corner paper.



Lunch Menu

SEPTEMBER 2023 LUNCH MENU

Subject to change

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4 NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY	5 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Twister Fries, Green Beans, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Hot Dog Lunch	6 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce & Tomato, Baked Beans, Oven Fries, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	7 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: “Lunch Brunch” Pancakes, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Baby Carrots, Applesauce ALT: Chicken Burger	8 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: French Bread Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Broccoli/Cheese Sauce, Fruit ALT: Chicken Fajita
11 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Baked Beans Steamed Peas & Carrots, Fruit ALT: Soup/Sandwich	12 Breakfast: Mini Pancake/ Sausage Wraps Lunch: Chicken Patty/Bun Waffle Fries, Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit ALT: Garlic Cheese Bread	13 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Spaghetti in Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Whole Kernel Corn, Cottage Cheese, Frozen Fruit Cup Alt: Taco Salad Bar	14 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese/Bun, Potato Smiles, Green Beans, Fruited Gelatin ALT: Bacon Cheeseburger Tot Bake	15 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese Quesadilla Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Winter Veggie Mix, Fruit Alt: Pulled Pork Sandwich
18 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Burger Bar	19 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad Chips, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit ALT: Sausage, Egg, Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	20 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Breaded Chicken Drumstick, Mac & Cheese, Biscuit, Whole Kernel Corn, Baby Carrot Cup, Fruit ALT: Salad Bar	21 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Taco in a Bag Chips/Meat/Cheese Lettuce/Tomato, Spud Bites, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Ham & Cheese Sub	22 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Pickle Spear, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Fruit ALT: Lasagna Roll Up
25 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Sloppy Joe/Bun, Cheese Slice, Whole Kernel Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit ALT: Chicken Bacon Ranch Pasta	26 Breakfast: Mini Pancake/ Sausage Wraps Lunch: Chicken Strips, Oven Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit ALT: Italian Cold Cut Sub	27 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Homemade Chili, Cheesy Bosco Stick, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Crackers, Fruit ALT: Salad Bar	28 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Mandarin Orange Chicken, Fluffy Rice, Stir Fry Veggies, Bread Stick, Pineapple Tidbits ALT: Turkey Sub	29 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese Pizza Crunchers, Romaine Lettuce Salad, California Veggie Mix, Fruit ALT: Philly Sandwich
		<i>*Fruit & a juice cup offered daily with breakfast.</i> <i>*WGR cereal may be substituted for main breakfast item.</i>	<i>*Low fat or fat free milk offered daily with breakfast & lunch.</i>	<i>*Alternate line available for grades 7-12 daily.</i> <i>*Ala Carte (Smart Snack) line available for grades 9-12.</i>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

A message from your Food Service Staff

On Friday, March 17, 2023, Governor Walz signed the Free School Meals bill into law. Beginning with the 2023-24 school year, Esko Public Schools will provide free school meals for all students in both the National School Lunch Program & the School Breakfast Program.

This state funded program provides reimbursement for meals served to students who do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals so all students receive meals at no cost.

Parents/Guardians should still fill out the Application for Educational Benefits, formally known as the free and reduced lunch form. A new application must be submitted each year. Your family may also qualify for other benefits, such as paying a lower fee or no fee for school activities.

Junior & senior high school students may purchase a second lunch, second entree or ala carte items, providing they have a positive lunch account balance.

Milk will be available for purchase for students bringing a lunch from home.

View student’s meal accounts
on Parent Portal

www.esko.k12.mn.us

Please send a check in an envelope
labeled with exactly what is being pur-
chased.

Lactose reduced milk will be
provided to a student upon written
request from a parent/guardian.

Lunch Menu

Please send a check in an envelope labled with exactly what is being purchased.

Lactose reduced milk will be provided to a student upon written request from a parent/guardian.

OCTOBER 2023 LUNCH MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Chicken Nuggets Twister Fries, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Turkey Bacon Wrap	3 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/ Tomato, Baked Beans, Oven Fries, Fruit Alt: Stuffed Crust Pizza	4 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Crackers, Lettuce Salad, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Fruit No Alternate Early Dismissal	5 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: “Lunch Brunch” French Toast, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Baby Carrots, Applesauce Alt: Soft Shell Taco	6 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Stuffed Crust Pizza, Lettuce Salad, Broccoli/Cheese, Fruit Alt: Hot Dog Bar
9 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Corn Dog, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Steamed Peas & Carrots, Fruit Alt: Soup Sandwich	10 Breakfast: Mini Pancake/ Sausage Wraps Lunch: Chicken Patty/Bun, Waffle Fries, Whole Kernel Corn, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Cheese Pizza Crunches	11 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Turkey Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Biscuit, Cranberry Sauce No Alternate Early Dismissal	12 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Ribette/Bun, Oven Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruited Gelatin Alt: Taco in a Bag	13 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Mexican Pizza, Shredded Lettuce Salad, Normandy Vegetable Blend, Fruit Alt: Chicken Alfredo
16 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Burger Bar	17 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad Chips, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Sausage/Egg/Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	18 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Spaghetti in Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Whole Kernel Corn, Cottage Cheese, Frozen Fruit Cup Alt: Taco Salad Bar	19 NO SCHOOL	20 NO SCHOOL
23 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Sloppy Joe/Bun, Cheese Slice, Whole Kernel Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit Alt: BBQ Meatballs	24 Breakfast: Mini Pancake/ Sausage Wraps Lunch: Popcorn Chicken, Seasoned Oven Fries, Peas & Carrots, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Garlic Cheese Bread	25 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Homemade Chili, Cheesy Bosco Stick, Carrots/Celery Sticks Crackers, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	26 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Chicken Fajita, Shell/Meat/Cheese, Lettuce/Tomato, Spud Bites, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Philly Sandwich	27 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/ Tomato, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Pickle Spear, Fruit Alt: Lasagne Roll Up
30 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Chicken Nuggets Twister Fries, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Turkey Bacon Wrap	31 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Baked Beans, Oven Fries, Fruit Alt: Pulled Pork Mac & Cheese Bar	<i>*Alternate line available for grades 7-12 daily.</i> <i>*Ala Carte (Smart Snack) line available for grades 9-12.</i>	<i>*Low fat or fat free milk offered daily with breakfast & lunch.</i> <i>*Fruit & a juice cup offered daily with breakfast.</i> <i>*WGR cereal may be substituted for main breakfast item.</i>	<i>*Due to supply chain issues- MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE.</i>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



“Time spent playing with children is never time wasted.” Dawn Lantero

Summer Cool Kids 2023

Lunch Menu

Please send a check in an envelope labled with exactly what is being purchased.

NOVEMBER 2023 LUNCH MENU

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Lactose reduced milk will be provided to a student upon written request from a parent/guardian.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<i>*Fruit & a juice cup offered daily with breakfast.</i> <i>*WGR cereal may be substituted for main breakfast item.</i> <i>*Low fat or fat free milk offered daily with breakfast & lunch.</i>	<i>*Alternate line available for grades 7-12 daily.</i> <i>*Ala Carte (Smart Snack) line available for grades 9-12.</i>	1 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Chicken Noodle Soup, Bologna Sandwich, Crackers, Lettuce Salad, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	2 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: ‘Lunch Brunch’ Pancakes, HB Egg, Sausage Links, Tri Tater Baby Carrots, Applesauce Alt: Shrimp Poppers	3 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: French Bread Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Winter Vegetable Mix, Fruit Alt: Chicken Enchilada
6 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Steamed Peas & Carrots, Fruit Alt: Soup/Sandwich	7 Breakfast: Mini Pancake/Sausage Wraps Lunch: Chicken Patty/Bun, Waffle Fries, Whole Kernel Corn, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Garlic Cheese Bread	8 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Hamburger Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Steamed Mixed Vegetables, Biscuit, Fruit Alt: Taco Salad Bar	9 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese/Bun, Potato Smiles, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruited Gelatin Alt: Mandarin Orange Chicken	10 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese Quesadilla Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Normandy Vegetable Mix, Fruit Alt: Meat & Potato Burrito
13 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Burger Bar	14 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich	15 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Spaghetti in Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Whole Kernel Corn, Cottage Cheese, Frozen Fruit Cup Alt: Salad Bar	16 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Taco in a Bag Chips/Meat/Cheese Lettuce/Tomato Spud Bites, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Ham & Cheese Sub	17 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Pickle Spear, Fruit Alt: Lasagna Roll-Up
20 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Sloppy Joe/Bun, Cheese Slice, Whole Kernel Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit Alt: Hot Dog Bar	21 Breakfast: Mini Pancake Wraps Lunch: Chicken Strips, Crinkle Cut Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Stuffed Crust Pizza	22 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Homemade Chili, Cheesy Bosco Stick, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Crackers, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	23 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK	24 NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK
27 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Twister Fries, Green Beans, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Turkey Bacon Wrap	28 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Baked Beans, Oven Fries, Fruit Alt: Baked Potato Bar	29 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Crackers, Lettuce Salad, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	30 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: “Lunch Brunch” French Toast, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Baby Carrots, Applesauce Alt: Soft Shell Taco	

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



There is no parking at the Esko Education Center. This lot is for drop off and pick up of our School Readiness, Cool Kids and ECFE students only. Please use the parent drop off line by the playground doors to drop off students, and park in the designated school parking lots. Thank you for your help in keeping our littlest learners safe!