

### **School Board Meeting is February 12**

The February 12 regular School Board meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the District Services Center, 4540 Tower Street SE, Prior Lake. New Business agenda items for the meeting will include:

- Report on Strategic Direction D: Expand and Embed Environmental Focus Across the District
- Facilities Planning and Construction
- AIA Construction Agreements
- District Roofing Projects Bid Approval
- Approval for Advertisement for Bid Pack 4
- 2018-19 Enrollment Update
- Annual Resolution Directing the Administration to make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Therefore
- School Board Recognition Week Resolution

To view the agenda in its entirety, click <u>here</u>. To watch the meeting live on February 12 or to view archived meetings, click <u>here</u>.

#### Bonds sales save taxpayers more than \$13M over earlier estimates

At its January 25 meeting, the School Board approved the award of sale for two school bond issues, resulting in more than \$13 million in savings for tax payers over 20 years, compared with the estimates the district publicized prior to the election.

Total tax levies from the combination of the two bond issues will be \$13.45 million less than in the estimates prepared prior to the election. Updated estimates of tax rates are lower every year than in the pre-election estimates. The total repayment of the bond is 20 years.

"I would like to thank Ehlers, Inc., our Executive Director of Business Affairs, Julie Cink, and her staff for their hard work and for being wise financial stewards of tax payer dollars," said Rich Wolf, School Board Chair. "We have sound financial operating conditions and tonight we have received validation from financial experts that we are working in the best interest of our stakeholders and lowering the tax impact to residents."

With the bond sale complete, the district will now invest the money until construction costs are incurred. The money will be used to address enrollment, safety and academic needs by building a new elementary school, additions to almost all schools and addressing traffic and high school entrance safety concerns, as approved by voters on November 7. <u>More information</u>.

#### Jenny Nagy Named Business Person of the Year

Congratulations to PLSAS Community Involvement Coordinator, Jenny Nagy on receiving the Business Person of the Year Award from the Prior Lake Chamber of Commerce.



Jenny received the award for her dedication as an ambassador to the Chamber along with the many events she donates her time to including Lakefront Days, Fall Community Fest and monthly membership meetings, all the while promoting the many Community Education class offerings and partnerships.



# Emily Malone is new Director of Child Nutrition Services

PLSAS welcomes Emily Malone as the new Director of Child Nutrition Services. Emily previously served as the Child Nutrition Services Coordinator for PLSAS, and has also served as the Child Nutrition Services Lead at Prior Lake High School.

Emily replaces Janeen Peterson who moved to a position with Alexandria Public Schools.

#### Stay up-to-date on district construction projects

Thanks to voter approval of Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools' (PLSAS) two school funding requests, PLSAS is now in a design phase and has established construction timelines for our building renovations and additions, new elementary school and new Bridges Area Learning Center.

Our <u>dedicated web page</u> includes a construction phasing plan, short-term planning, stakeholder input process and FAQs.



#### Cold weather means learning opportunity for Nature-Based Preschool

Nature preschool students had the opportunity to experience a popular Minnesota winter activity: ice fishing.

Each preschool student was given a hand line fishing pole and a hole in the ice to fish through. They learned about different types of bait and practiced baiting their own hooks; they even had a chance to practice drilling holes in the ice.



This activity also provided an opportunity to learn about ice fishing safety, as well as fish anatomy, habitat and food chain. Because they were provided portable shelters, each class fished for an hour, more protected from the cold.

To prepare for this activity, students in Amanda Sterna's class read about and discussed fish in class. They wrapped up their fish unit by documenting their ice fishing experience in their nature journals.

The Minnesota DNR provides family programming and free fishing experiences to school groups.



#### **Geography Bee winners**

School Geography Bees were held recently at Five Hawks, Jeffers Pond, Grainwood, Glendale, Redtail Ridge and WestWood elementary schools, SAGE Academy, and a joint middle school competition at Twin Oaks Middle School.

Each Geography Bee consisted of seven rounds of questions regarding United States or world geography. Each geography bee resulted in one winner who will have the chance to compete at the regional level.

### Nine PLHS student athletes sign National Letters of Intent

Nine Prior Lake High School student athletes signed National Letters of Intent (NLI) on February 7. The NLI is a document used to indicate a student athlete's commitment to participate at a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) college or university. Congratulations!



Front Row: Dawson Phan, Soccer, Belmont University; Hannah Caldwell, Soccer, University of Minnesota Duluth; Leah Pavlish, Soccer, Gustavus Adolphus College; Jordan Johnson, Football, South Carolina State University

Back Row: Daniel Wee, Soccer, Ohio State University; Blake Ochsendorf, Football, Minnesota State University Moorhead; Zach Whaley, Football, Kent State University; Jordan Olson, Football, University of Jamestown; Ethan Derks, Soccer, Augsburg College

#### PLHS students win Scholastic Art Awards



Thressa Schultz won a Gold Key for her painting titled, "The Past Remembered," which was created for the PLHS winter play, A Christmas Carol.



Josette Tellin won an Honorable Mention for her painting, "Grandpa Love."

There were more than 3,800 submissions throughout the state this year. Of the submissions there were 371 Gold Key Awards, 363 Silver Key Awards and 735 Honorable Mentions.





# Registration opens soon for our summer courses

Visit <u>www.priorlakesavagece.com</u> for all of our offerings.





### Learning Social Saturday, March 24 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Join us for a day of learning, relaxing, creating and fun! Begin with breakfast treats at 8 am. Choose a morning class, afternoon class or both! Enjoy a delicious optional lunch and a variety of courses to choose from. Invite a friend to register with you. <u>Register here</u>!



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER. PLEASE VISIT US AT WWW.PRIORLAKESAVAGECE.CO

## Spring ECFE

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Classes begin in late February. Registration is open online: www.priorlakesavagece.com. Here is a sample of some spring classes:

- <u>E-STEM in the Park</u> Friday mornings
- Exploring E-STEM with Dad Tuesday evenings
- Family Connections Monday evenings
- <u>Littlest Lakers Club</u> Friday mornings
- <u>Giggle, Groove & Grow</u> Thursday mornings

#### **Circle of Friends Preschool**

Registration for <u>Circle of Friends Preschool</u> for the 2018-2019 school year has started! Register online at <u>www.priorlakesavagece.com</u>.

