



Prior Lake High School

Parent Newsletter

February 2019

A POSITIVE PLACE TO LEARN

From the Principal

by John Bezek

The Laker Way

Pride – Respect – Responsibility

What is the Laker Way? A set of beliefs in how we carry ourselves and interact with others as members of Prior Lake High School. It is through having common beliefs and understandings that we make our school “A Positive Place to Learn”. Schools/organizations that have stated common held beliefs are more successful in achieving their goals and having that positive vibe that people want to be a part of.

The Laker Way is Rooted in Three Main Beliefs;

Pride – Respect - Responsibility

Pride n. 1. Pleasure or satisfaction taken in one’s work, achievements, or association; The Laker Way. 2. A sense of one’s own proper dignity, value and self-respect.

Respect v. 1. To feel or show esteem for; to honor. 2. Willingness to show consideration or appreciation.

Responsibility n. 1. Capable of making moral or rational decisions on one’s own, and therefore answerable for one’s behavior. 2. Based upon or characterized by good judgement or sound thinking.

Our Goal: A focus on these core beliefs will help create, maintain and enhance a positive culture of success at Prior Lake High School.

The Laker Way team is excited to begin teaching students about our three core values. We will be teaching kids what it means to live these values as a Laker during Sweetheart’s Week! Make sure to ask your kids about what they learn!

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LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

The official PLHS Facebook Site
(click on the Facebook icon)



DID YOU KNOW?

**Laker Corner PLHS
School Store** is open
every day!

Before School:

7:45 — 8:00

6th Hour:

2:02 — 3:00

After School:

3:00 — 3:15

Attendance Line
Phone Number

952-226-8601

**Parking Lot
Reminders**

Speed limit for the
high school parking
lot is 10 miles per
hour!

Main lot requires
parking permit, must
be displayed on the
rearview mirror daily

Softball "daily" lot
requires payment day
before to park
(example: pay Monday to
park Tuesday)

Laker Café is open all
day!

Synergy/SAGE Parent Action Network

SPAN is the Synergy/SAGE Parent Action Network. We are also known as the Prior Lake-Savage Chapter of the MN Council for the Gifted and Talented (MCGT). Our mission is to support and advocate for academically advanced students, their parents, and their educators.

SPAN will host its **next meeting on Tuesday Feb. 19 at 7pm** in the WestWood Elementary Media Center. It will feature a panel of parents of high-ability kids who are in middle school, high school, and/or college to answer questions about experiences moving through the school system and raising their kids.

Be sure to sign up for our email list to be notified about the coffee meetings and other meeting dates. If you have questions or would like to be placed on our email list, please email Apryl at span.priorlake@gmail.com. See all of our meeting dates on our website www.mcgt.net/priorlake.

Nurse's Note

With the recent extreme cold weather and negative wind chills, it is important to be aware of the potential for frostbite in a matter of minutes. Several students come to school without coats, hats, gloves, etc. Please remind your student to stay protected in this weather. See below for information on how to prevent frostbite.

- **Limit time outdoors in cold, wet or windy weather.** Pay attention to weather forecasts and wind chill readings. In very cold, windy weather, exposed skin can develop frostbite in a matter of minutes.
- **Dress in several layers of loose, warm clothing.** Air trapped between the layers of clothing acts as insulation against the cold. Wear windproof and waterproof outer garments to protect against wind, snow and rain. Choose undergarments that wick moisture away from your skin. Change out of wet clothing — particularly gloves, hats and socks — as soon as possible.
- **Wear a hat or headband that fully covers your ears.** Heavy woolen or windproof materials make the best headwear for cold protection.
- **Wear mittens rather than gloves.** Mittens provide better protection. Or try a thin pair of glove liners made of a wicking material (such as polypropylene) under a pair of heavier gloves or mittens.
- **Wear socks and sock liners that fit well, wick moisture and provide insulation.** You might also try hand and foot warmers. Be sure the foot warmers don't make your boots too tight, restricting blood flow.
- **Watch for signs of frostbite.** Early signs of frostbite include red or pale skin, prickling, and numbness. Seek warm shelter if you notice signs of frostbite.
- **Plan to protect yourself.** When traveling in cold weather, carry emergency supplies and warm clothing in case you become stranded. If you'll be in remote territory, tell others your route and expected return date.
- **Don't drink alcohol if you plan to be outdoors in cold weather.** Alcoholic beverages cause your body to lose heat faster.
- **Eat well-balanced meals and stay hydrated.** Doing this even before you go out in the cold will help you stay warm.
- **Keep moving.** Exercise can get the blood flowing and help you stay warm, but don't do it to the point of exhaustion.

Julie Dusatko, Licensed School Nurse, RN

jdusatko@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us

952-226-8682

Attendance Procedures

Call the Attendance line – 952-226-8601

If your child will be absent from school due to illness, vacation, or appointments, etc.

If you need to take your child out of school for an appointment during the school day (call at least **30 minutes before** your pickup time)

If you forgot to call when your child was absent from school

You may also send us an email at:

hsattendance@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us

You do not need to come into the school to pick-up your child. They will receive a pass to leave the building from the Attendance Secretary, they will sign themselves out of the building (at the desk located by the student entrance), and meet you at the car. All students **MUST** exit from the student entrance on the east side of the building.

Absence due to Appointments

Students who miss all or parts of a school day due to a dental, medical or other appointments must provide written note from the dental/medical office where they received treatment.

Absences Due to Family Vacations 3 or more days

Students need to pick up the "Parental Requests for Extended Absence" form in the attendance office and have it signed by each of their teachers and their parent(s).

College Visits

Juniors are given one college day and Seniors are given two. They are excused absences, but do count towards the student's total missed attendance days per quarter. Verification of attendance at a post-secondary school is required upon the return of the student to PLHS.

Trips to Afton – Snowboarding/Skiing

Trips to Afton- Snowboarding/Skiing

- Friday, February 15th- 3:30-10:30

Trips are \$45 for bus trip and lift ticket

Rental is extra

Questions, contact the Activities Office- 952-226-8690

MNCAPS Minute



MNCAPS is now accepting applications! If your student will be an 11th or 12th grader in 2019-2020, consider joining our community. Interested students can apply by clicking on the following link:

Application:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIOd6i_xtLMVloyVFmTISStUNtBMLrzhK96r_ngyHRtB8rClw/viewform

When participating in MNCAPS, students receive the following:

- High School Credits
- College Credits
(Weighted when calculating cumulative GPA)
- Professional Mentor Experience
- Corporate Business Projects
- Experiential Learning
- Professional Skills Development
- Flexible Work Environment
- Career Decision-Making Assistance
- Collaborating with Peers

New Pathways for 2019-2020

Education (Three Hour Pathway)



The Education Pathway utilizes project-based learning and case study methods to introduce general teaching concepts within education. Students will learn topics such as how research impacts instructional student management strategies, assessment practices and other best practices in education. Students three periods each day for two semesters at the MNCAPS location, designing lesson plans and experiencing the challenges of project-based work. This pathway requires students to apply these concepts to designing, implementing and assessing student achievement and will be evaluated by both the teachers and participating stakeholders. *Content areas covered: English, Social Studies, English*

Global Sustainability (Three Hour Pathway)



The Global Sustainability Pathway utilizes project-based learning and case study methods to introduce sustainability efforts utilized in a variety of industries. Students will learn about the economics and policy implications of sustainability, with an emphasis on its impact on communities and organizations/companies. Students spend three periods each day for two semesters at the MNCAPS location, engaging in real-world experiences in the sustainability industry. This pathway requires students to apply these concepts to designing, implementing and reporting on a variety of industry-driven projects, solving research problems. *Content areas covered: Science, Social Studies, English*

see next page for more on MNCAPS

Design + Marketing (Three Hour Pathway)



The goal of Design + Marketing is to coordinate the vision/mission with branding and marketing strategies by creatively combining materials and digital media. Students will learn about variables that impact marketing decisions and how skillfully designed visual images succeed in the marketplace. Student project teams will work with local, national and international businesses to master technologies such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. By taking a lead role in planning, designing and presenting work to clients, students will function as a design consultant during the process. *Content areas covered: Tech Ed., Business, English*

Professional Selling (Two Hour Pathway)



Professional Selling showcases the role of sales in the economy, the importance of a positive sales attitude, the basic steps of a sale, and how the salesperson is viewed as a representative of a company. The student will receive training and ample opportunities to conduct a sales presentation to a buyer of a product/service. Students will learn how to assess client needs, then utilize critical thinking to identify business problems and provide solutions. In addition, students will apply business knowledge to determine ways that clients could run more effectively or profitably for improved results.

If you have questions about the program, please visit www.mncaps.org or contact MNCAPS Coordinator, Erik Sill at esill@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us.

Guidance News

Registration for 2019-2020: Counselors will now be joining English classes on Feb 12th (9th grade), Feb 13th (10th grade) and Feb 14th (11th grade) to register students for classes. **Students that are absent on their assigned registration day can stop in the guidance office the following week, any time between 7:30 – 3:00, to complete their registration.**

College Fair: Prior Lake will be hosting a college fair this year, open to students of all grades in the Gold gym on March 11th at 6pm. Visit with Admissions Representatives from over 100 schools to learn about what makes each school unique!

The Guidance Department is looking for local businesses and organizations who are interested in donating money to be used for scholarships for the senior class. Please contact Kelly Kren at kkren@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us if you are interested in making a donation or sponsoring a scholarship.