



# Prior Lake High School

## Parent Newsletter

### March 2019

#### A POSITIVE PLACE TO LEARN

## From the Principal

by John Bezek

I have to admit that I have a bad case of cabin fever. As I sit down to write this, it's the first day of Spring and hopefully the weather is starting to cooperate. It has been an odd quarter with all of the snow and cold days. It felt like it took us a long time to get in the groove and now the third quarter is coming to an end. We can all use Spring Break - students and staff alike. I am not sold on break being the first week of April. In my opinion we, all need a little break by the middle of March, but the schedule is set for this year and hopefully everyone will use the time to reset and get ready for the race to the finish.

When we are back from break things will start to fly by. We will be starting testing season with the MN Comprehensive Assessments (MCA's) and the ACT. You will find some information in this newsletter on both and the dates and the modified schedule we will be using to provide the best testing environment for our students.

Construction on our classroom additions on the south side of the building is going well. Students and staff have adjusted when things occasionally get a little loud. The new classrooms are scheduled to be ready for second semester (end of January) next school year. This Spring and Summer construction will be more noticeable as we start on the north side of the building with the new North entrance and the field house. That work will be ongoing throughout next school year with a completion date scheduled for the start of the 2020-21 school year. Additionally, next school year we will be expanding the cafeteria so you will see updates on that as we get closer to the beginning of that project. While we know this work causes a temporary inconvenience, we are thankful the community supports us with some of the finest facilities around and will work to keep disruptions to a minimum.

For information on all of the construction updates please visit <https://www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/about-us/construction-updates>

I hope you all have a chance to enjoy the break that is coming up, March 29 – April 5, whether you are going somewhere or just having more time to relax as a family.

Thanks you and “Have a Great...Laker Day!

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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!

## 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](mailto: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.

## Special Testing Days

### Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

On April 15<sup>th</sup> we will be administering the MCA III–Math test to all Juniors in the morning, and the MCA III – Science test to all students in Biology (Sophomores) in the afternoon. The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) are used to measure student achievement and also meet federal and state legislative requirements. Students taking the MCA-III assessments will need to bring a pencil, book to read after finishing, and student ID. **Students are not permitted to have cell phones in the MCA testing rooms.**

MONDAY APRIL 15 <sup>TH</sup>		
Grade	Test	Time
11 <sup>th</sup>	MCA Math	8:00 - 10:30 Students should arrive by 7:45
10 <sup>th</sup> Biology Students	MCA Science	12:30 - 3:00 Students should arrive by 12:15
9 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	No School – Digital Learning Day	

Busing for April 15<sup>th</sup>:

- 11<sup>th</sup> graders: Buses will run normal routes in the morning and will depart for home at 11:00 a.m. A light lunch will be provided from 10:30-11:00.
- 10<sup>th</sup> graders: Buses will pick students up at their stops 4 hours later than normal. For example, if a student's bus usually comes at 7:35 a.m., it will come at 11:35 a.m. A light lunch will be provided from 12:00 – 12:30.

### Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

On April 24<sup>th</sup> we will be administering the ACT + Writing examination to all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. The American College Testing (ACT) assessment is a leading college admissions test that provides valuable feedback about students' academic readiness for college. There is no cost to students to take the ACT. The ACT test will be administered from 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Students who complete the exam before 12:30 are not allowed to leave early. Students taking the ACT will need to bring a photo ID, number 2 pencils, and an ACT approved calculator. Students do not need to bring a test ticket. Please review the [test preparation document](#) and [permitted calculators document](#) for further information.

We will also be administering the 10<sup>th</sup> grade MCA III- Reading test on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) are used to measure student achievement and also meet federal and state legislative requirements. Students taking the MCA-III assessments will need to bring a pencil, book to read after finishing, and student ID. **Students are not permitted to have cell phones in the ACT or MCA testing rooms.**

Wednesday APRIL 24 <sup>TH</sup>		
Grade	Test	Time
10 <sup>th</sup>	MCA Reading	8:00-12:15 Students should arrive by 7:45
11 <sup>th</sup>	ACT	8:00-12:30 Students should arrive by 7:40
9 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	No School – Digital Learning Day	

- Busing for April 24<sup>th</sup>: Buses will run normal routes in the morning, and they will depart for home at 1:00 P.M.
  - A light lunch will be provided to students following the testing.

### Students Who Drive to School

Students not riding the bus on April 15<sup>th</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup> do not need parking permits to park on campus.

## MN State Assessments Parent/Guardian Opt Out Form

Minnesota values its educational system and the professionalism of its educators. Minnesota educators created the academic standards which are rigorous and prepare our students for career and college. The statewide assessments are how we as a state measure that curriculum and daily instruction in our schools are being aligned to the academics standards, ensuring all students are being provided an equitable education. Statewide assessment results are just one tool to monitor that we are providing our children with the education that will ensure a strong workforce and knowledgeable citizens (from the Minnesota Department of Education).

Please click below to read more information about statewide testing and access the parent/guardian opt out form. This form must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to the main office of your child's school.

[State Testing Parent/Guardian Information \(Opt Out\)](#)

## Laker Way

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

[@TheLakerWay](#)



## Guidance News

Senior Parents:

Scholarships: Our Laker Scholarship application is now available in guidance as well as other local scholarships. You can have your student pick up the application in guidance or on Naviance under the scholarship tab. The Laker Scholarships application is due by March 25<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

Decision Day & Final Transcripts: May 1<sup>st</sup> is National College Decision Day and we will be celebrating in the Guidance Office! At this time, students will be asked to fill out a survey indicating what their graduation plans are. Responses from the survey will be used to send final transcripts (free of cost).

Junior Parents:

The Guidance Office will be holding Junior Meetings for students to think more concretely about post-secondary planning. Please advise your student to attend on the day their counselor hosts during either 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or 6<sup>th</sup> hour.

- Joey Larsen (A-C): May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Lisa Hager (D-Ha): May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Emily Nelson (He-La): May 7<sup>th</sup>
- Kelly Kren (Le-Pa): May 6<sup>th</sup>
- Carrie Super (Pe-Sk): May 9<sup>th</sup>
- Nate Gutshall (Sl-Z): May 10<sup>th</sup>

## MNCAPS Minute



Healthcare Year 2 students began coursework and skills training to prepare for the CNA exam. As nursing homes and senior living centers continue to report major workforce shortages, the MNCAPS Program aims to provide a solution to that issue!

These students will have the ability to be hired as CNAs as early as Summer 2019. Along with this certification, Healthcare students also receive the following by participating in the program:

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

Do you have a CNA and/or RN in your network? We always need assistance with teaching this course. Please refer these individuals to

www.mncaps.org or contact Erik Sill at [esill@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us](mailto:esill@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us)

## Laker Corner

### Managers wanted

Applications are being accepted for Laker Corner student managers for the 2019-2020 school year. Ideal candidates will be self-motivated, dependable, and possess excellent problem solving, decision making and communication skills. Students who will be seniors next year and have taken a prior business class may apply.

Inquiries can be directed to: Ms. Rutt, Room 302 or [lrutt@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us](mailto:lrutt@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us).



1st Annual  
National Art Honors Soc

# ART SHOW

ALL SCHOOL MAY 17-21

Awards  
 Gold \$200  
 Silver \$100  
 Bronze \$50

Submission Deadline May 1st  
 Artwork Drop off May 10th : Room 121

Enter Here 

## Career and Job Fair

Any Age, Any Wage!

**Tuesday, March 26**  
**5-7 pm**  
**Prior Lake High School**

# 2019

**Meet your future employers and learn from the experts.**

If you or your business is interested in being a vendor, please contact  
 Jenny Nagy at 952-226-0085 or [jnagy@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us](mailto:jnagy@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us)

Engineering & Specialty Trades	Education	Business & Finance	Health Services	Hospitality & Retail	Government	Other _____
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**'19- '20 Season for Current 4<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Going to School/Living in District 719**

***Info Meeting: 3/25 @ 6:30pm TOMS Media Center***

***Open Gyms: 3/5, 3/12, 3/26 from 6:00 - 8:00pm @PLHS  
(\$5.00 Per Open Gym)***

***Try-Out: 4/8 - 4/10 from 6:00pm - 9:00pm @ HOMS***

***Questions? Email  
bridgetortner@yahoo.com***