



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2142

ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

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JUNE 2022

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Supt's. Update



Supt. Reggie Engebretson, Ed.D

As I write the last newsletter article for this school year, I can't help but think of the seniors who will be ending their school journey and moving on to the next chapter of their lives. When you think back to your high school graduation, did you even imagine you would end up where you are now? I sure didn't.

I also think about those sixth-graders who will be entering high school in the fall. They are about to enter the last half of their school journey with all of its excitement and awkwardness and hormones. Hold on tight, parents! This ride will be bumpy, at times.

And what about those preschool kids who will become Kindergartners in the fall? How is that even possible when they were just born a few moments ago?!? Slow this train down!

As I look back on this school year, I am grateful that we were able to stay in school, return to many of the activities we did before COVID hit us, and finish strong. The year certainly had its challenges as we did our best to meet each student where they were at because of the changes COVID brought us. We will continue to do this, as it will take more than one year to help some students grasp

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**Congratulations
to our 2022
District 2142
Graduates!!**



***We are so proud of
your accomplishments!***

***Good luck in all of
your future endeavors***

Panther Pride turns into week-long celebration

South Ridge students, staff, parents and community come together

By Lee Bloomquist

School pride is alive and well at every St. Louis County Schools campus.

But South Ridge Campus students and staff took it to the max as the 2021-2022 school year neared a close.

South Ridge turned what in years past had been Panther Pride Night into Panther Pride Week, a week-long celebration focused on school service, community, and education.

"It kind of started with our Youth in Action and NHS (National Honor Society)," said Liz Beseke, a South Ridge social studies instructor and Youth in Action advisor. "NHS and Youth in Action is all about service. Some of those things are pride in ourselves, pride in our school, and pride in our community."

Students and staff during the week performed a wide range of activities in around the campus.

Students helped with landscaping, highway clean-up, planting grass and flowers, hiking trail clean-up, cleaning recycling bins, lockers, and gym storage areas.



South Ridge Campus students Ethan Nelson, Lily Sampson and other students help clean up the highway near the school as part of Panther Pride Week.

"Working together can cause a lot of great things to happen," said Keegan Fosness, a South Ridge junior and Youth in Action member. "I think our main goal

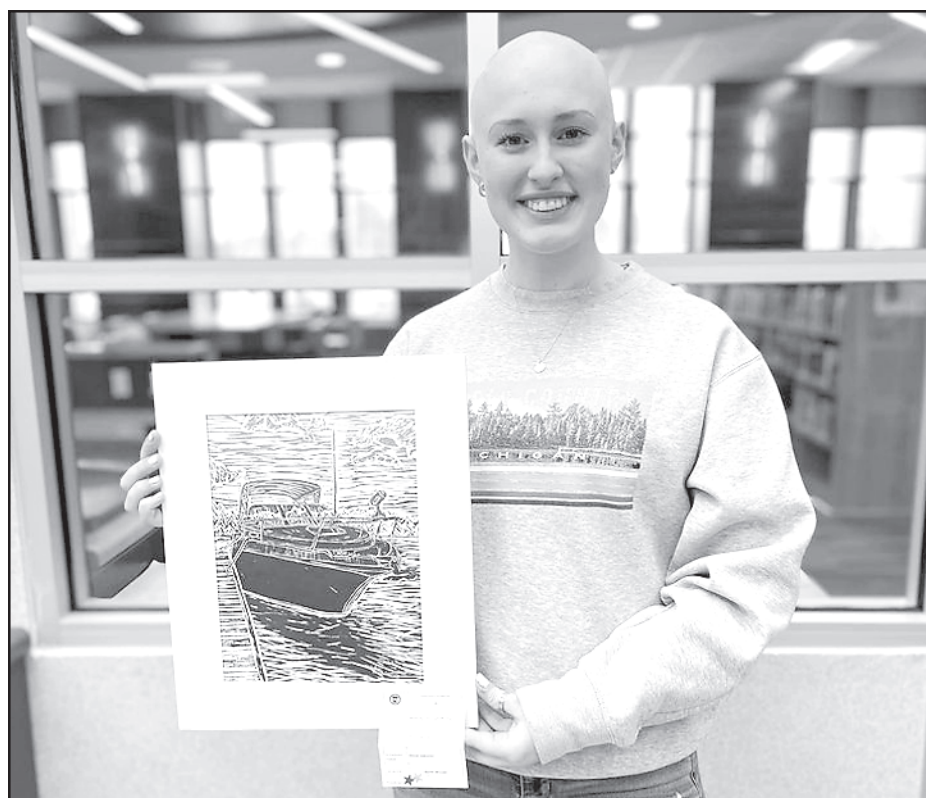
of the week was to bring more pride. I think students realized that they can help."

Other activities included an elementary track and field day, cleaning the school stage, and deep cleaning lunch tables.

"We just thought it would be a good way to clean up the school," said Jezlyn Abramowski, a South Ridge senior and member of Youth in Action and NHS. "I think students realized school can be a

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'BEST IN SHOW'



North Woods School students participated in the 2022 Minnesota State High School League Art Competition. Olivia Udovich (Grade 12) was awarded "Best in Show" in the printmaking category. After a two-year hiatus, the competition was able to take place at Moose Lake School and recognize students' artistic abilities across the northeast region of the state.

Preschool 2022-2023

If you have not yet registered, call today as enrollment is filling quickly!

If you did not receive information by mail, we will need to add you to our mailing list. Please call or email DaNeil the following information: Child's legal name, birthday, parent name, mailing address, phone number and email.

Children must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2022 to register for preschool.

**DaNeil 218-749-8130 ex 1116
or
dsirjord@isd2142.k12.mn.us**

TRILLS AND THRILLS MUSIC FESTIVAL



The Cherry School Junior High Band traveled to St. Paul in May to perform in the Trills and Thrills Music Festival. Afterward, they spent the day at Valleyfair Amusement Park.

• Superintendent’s Update

(Continued from front page)

the concepts that need to be learned to be able to move forward in their studies. We will continue to be creative in how we teach and help students learn.

For now, as we wind up another school year it is time to reflect on how the year went and take time to rest and recharge. We are fortunate to have an amazing group of people in our school district who show up every day to give the best of themselves to our students ... to your children. Whether it’s the bus driver, or the cook, or the custodian, or the secretary, or the para, or the nurse, or the teacher, or the principal – they show up because they care about our communities and about the future of the children they serve. In this day and age, employers are begging for workers. I am aware that our employees could choose to work someplace else. Without the staff, we would not be able to run our schools. It’s as simple as that. Not every parent is cut out to homeschool their children. Not every child is cut out to attend an online school. We still need our brick and mortar buildings. Our students still need face-to-face interactions with adults. Adults still need face-to-face interactions with each other. Humans are social beings. We need each other.

But, having said all of that, it’s still good to take a break! Our summer break will start soon and may have already started by the time you are reading this. I hope each of you takes the time this summer to kick back, relax, and recharge. Unplug from your devices and lose track of time. Get lost in a good book, or movie, or navigate the beautiful region we live in or travel to some place new. Go on field trips with your kids and make some memories. Enjoy these days because before you know it, your kids will be graduating and leaving home. It goes by much faster than you think.

Thank you, to all of you, for your support this past school year. I wasn’t exactly sure how the year would unfold since we were still in the pandemic, so I am grateful we were able to stay in school. Your support means a lot! Enjoy your summer and we’ll see you in September!

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Tower-Soudan's graduating Sixth-Graders ~ Landon, Jack, Bentley, Claire, and Arlene! Your teachers and all of the staff at T-S are so proud of you and will miss you VERY MUCH!!!!

• Panther Pride Week at SR

(Continued from front page)

fun place and we can do things together.”

A Fond du Lac Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa dance group performed.

A food class barbecue, spaghetti dinner with inspirational speaker, health awareness assembly, community health fair, mental health awareness supper, Panther Pride Night with programs for all grades, and Panther Pride project awards, were also held.

Panther Pride Week helped bring the students, school, and community even closer together, said Andrew Bernard, South Ridge Campus principal.

“It’s been a while since the community has been able to come back,” Bernard said. “To be able to have parents come back and watch students perform was exciting. I’m glad we were able to expand it to a full week with all the activities.”

Beseke and Elizabet Casserberg, a South Ridge French and social studies instructor who advises NHS, helped organize events along with students and other staff.

“The students and teachers got really excited about it,” Casserberg said. “They put a lot of work into it. We need to build leadership and this helps do that.”

After a couple of challenging years, Panther Pride Week strengthened bonds with students, staff, parents, and community, Beseke said.

“I think with schools shutting down everywhere it’s all about getting involved again,” Beseke said. “It’s a nice, new, beautiful school and we want to take care of our building.”

Bernard said it’s amazing how students, staff, parents and community pulled together during the week.

“It helps students take pride in the school and it’s nice having community come back,” Bernard said. “It’s kind of cool how they designed it. It brings a lot of people through the door.”

Beseke said students and staff hope to next year expand Panther Pride Week.

“This being the first year, it started off small,” Beseke said. “Hopefully, it will take off and grow.”

ECFE – Early Childhood Family Education

If you have questions about ECFE, please contact the ECFE staff at your school! We are here to support you as a parent! Please reach out to our staff with your parenting questions or concerns!

School	Staff	email
Cherry	Lori Udovich, Parent Educator Jocelyn Jerkovich, Child Educator	ludovich@isd2142.k12.mn.us jajerkovich@isd2142.k12.mn.us
North Woods	Becky Chopp, Child Educator Lori Udovich, Parent Educator	bchopp@isd2142.k12.mn.us ludovich@isd2142.k12.mn.us
Northeast Range	Gena Flank, Child Educator Sarah Hansen, Parent Educator	gflank@isd2142.k12.mn.us shansen@isd2142.k12.mn.us
South Ridge	Christina Nelson, Child Educator Sara Lorbiecki-Brown, Parent Educator	chrisnelson@isd2142.k12.mn.us slorbieckibrown@isd2142.k12.mn.us
Tower-Soudan	Mary Larson, Child Educator Sarah Hansen, Parent Educator	mlarson@isd2142.k12.mn.us shansen@isd2142.k12.mn.us

T-S Spring Concert



Tower-Soudan students worked together in the multi-purpose room to make decorations for their spring concert. They worked on a whole-school weaving project and did beading. Fun was had by all.



The following students are now members of the Cherry School Reading Wall of Fame. They achieved this goal by the end of the school year.

Kindergarten Students: Sophie Argir, Frankie Hamilton, Jace Goerd, and Anna Kuhn.

1st Grade Students: Ruby Zimmer and Walker Saver.

2nd Grade Students: Liliana Acosta, Clara Halley, Aubree Pittman, Annelise Alesch, Emily Juntunen, Bella Farley, Louis Courteau and Hadley Mickle.

3rd Grade Students: Aubrey Incontro, Karson Koski, Natalie Pink, Bianka Steele, Wyatt Scovill, Arayah Koski, Kylee McKenney, Anthony Skerjance, Hunter Fink, Ayvah Majerle, Greyson Flaschberger, Micah Biles, Lexie Perpruner, Keira Kangas and Logan Johnson.

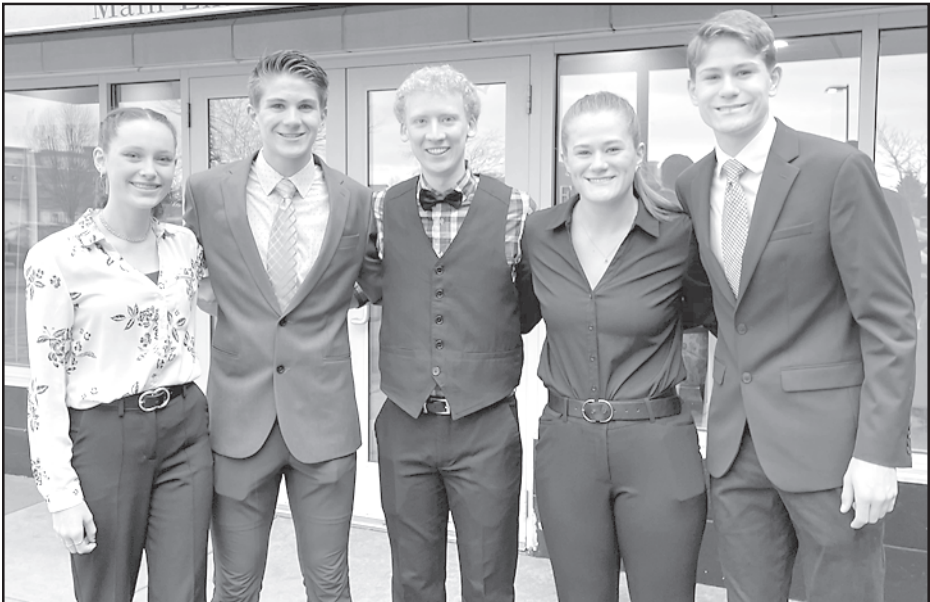
4th Grade Students: Asher Acosta, Addison Nelson, Isaac Wiita, Bethany Hoche, Arwen Lever, Colton Courteau and Emily Barton.

5th Grade Students: Alexis Macenski, Orion Brekkestran, Kiyrah Kangas, Gavin Vanderhoof, Hailey Warwas, Kylie Sikkila, Josey Carver, Reed Lind and Eli Peterlin.

6th Grade Students: Bristol Fink and Brody Sampson.

Cherry School teachers and staff are very proud of all of their "Roaring Readers"!!!

South Ridge sends five to State Speech Meet!!



South Ridge School sent five members of its Speech Team to the State Meet on April 23... the largest contingent in the school's history. Paris FierkeLepp (12th grade) earned fourth place in her category, Extemporaneous Reading. Owen Erickson (11th grade) earned sixth place in his category, Storytelling.

Additional State participants included Quinn FierkeLepp (10th grade), category Creative Expression; Sawyer FierkeLepp (9th grade), category Prose Reading; and Tegan Fordahl (8th grade), category Original Oratory.

STEM STUDENTS TRAVEL TO STAR BASE



The Tower-Soudan 5th/6th grade class enjoyed five fun-filled days of STEM activities in April. They traveled daily to STAR BASE, an awesome Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math event held at the 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth!!

Cherry students working to open community store

A team of Cherry students is working on opening a community store, to be located in the Cherry School, as a part of their Sustainability class. Orion Erickson, Blaise Erickson, Maddie Claviter and Landon Haugen designed and are working on a school project that will provide essential items to students and community members in need. Donations of more than 200 clothing items have been received from several people. Students washed, dried, folded, and organized the clothing by size and type. They hope to open the store by the start of the next school year when visitors to the store could take, exchange, and/or donate clothing. The students are thankful for the help of their instructor and several people outside of their class who worked with them to get the project off the ground.



Blaise Erickson presents information on the Sustainability project during School Pride Night at Cherry.

NER Seniors Return to Washington



Amara Lampton, Hannah Reichensperger, Ms. Akemann, Rylan Poppenhagen, Audrey Anderson, and Mr. Donais stand on the edge of the Tidal Basin.

After two school years interrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, one thing returned to normal for four NER students and their chaperones: the annual Senior Trip! The seniors spent five days in the U.S. Capital in late March taking in countless Smithsonian institutions and other museums, paying respect at the various monuments dotting the National Mall, visiting Mt. Vernon, witnessing the Changing of the Guard at Arlington National Cemetery, and experiencing the sights, sounds, and tastes Washington D.C. has to offer.

The trip ran into some travel delays in Chicago O’Hare to begin, but the first

full day in D.C. was action packed with a stop at the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture, dinner at a Southern comfort food restaurant, and a visit to Ford’s Theatre for the musical *Grace*.

Exercise wasn’t in short supply, with the group walking over 40 miles during the trip. Fortunately, everyone got back to Minnesota with minimal blisters and a desire to return to D.C. in the future!

The annual trip began in its current iteration at NER in 2015. Since that time, six groups totaling 46 Northeast Range seniors have made the trip.



A soldier stands guard over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.



Third-grade students at Northeast Range School studied the human body and the skeletal system that supports the body frame and protects the body's organs. Students learned about the largest and strongest bones and the smallest bones in their bodies. They learned about the types of joints in human bodies that help with movement and they experienced life for an afternoon without our awesome opposable thumb. Students also dissected owl pellets, which they learned are owl regurgitation. Student experience helped them locate mandibles, vertebrae, femurs, and many other bones similar to those in the human body.



This spring, Tower-Soudan Elementary first-graders used milk jugs in their planting unit. Students planted pumpkin, watermelon, and corn in their jugs. The jugs were taped shut and set outside. Students had to practice patience as the tape was not removed until the end of the school year when plants were ready to plant in the ground.

Track and Field Day at North Woods



Under cloudy skies, the North Woods Grizzlies held their annual Track and Field Day, May 18, under the guidance of Mrs. Holien, PE teacher at the NW School.

Students proudly wore their class color clothing during the event and shouted out their class color cheer to start off the event, followed by Grizzly Jacks to warm up. Students participated in various games and activities throughout the day. As students rotated around the grass field playing the games, classmates were observed showing good sportsmanship by cheering on their teammates and congratulating the winning team at the end of each game. Students participated in basketball, parachute, sack race, car wash relay, limbo, kickball, spoon and egg relay, and the 100-yard dash, just to name a few of the events. One favorite activity was the Tug of War in which various combinations of challenges were held. Ask the sixth-graders who the strongest

students in the school really are!

The Cook/Ely Forest Service participated in the event as well. Students were able to explore the Forest Service Fire Truck and hear from the Fire Technicians about fire safety in relation to forest wildfires. Students were treated to Smokey Bear swag to remember the importance of, “Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires.” Special thanks goes out to the Forest Service technicians and the student helpers from the local LEO organization who ran the stations.

Thanks go out also to the Cook Area Lions Club who provided a snack and water for each student.

And last, but not least, a huge thank you goes out to the classroom teachers and paraprofessionals who helped organize their students at each station, played the games, and who cheered loudly for all students to try their best. Although the day was cloudy and threatened by rain, all participants had a fun time!



**Tower-Soudan
students enjoy a
dance party**



Cherry High School Band travels to Orlando, Florida in March



The Cherry High School Band performed for the preschool classes this spring. They played several Disney songs and then presented the children with Mickey Mouse ears that band members received on their trip to Disney World in March.

"Small Schools With Big Opportunities -- Where Everybody is Somebody!"

Cherry Celebrates School Pride & Truck Night



On Tuesday, May 10, Cherry School welcomed school families and community members to the school to see some of the great things that students are doing and to thank them for their support! Student work was displayed throughout the school, fifth- and sixth-graders sponsored STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activities, and several local businesses brought their trucks and equipment for all to see and explore. The Dream Machine Car Club brought classic cars, Mr. Ed was on hand with farm animals, Life Link flew in with their helicopter, Radio Flyer Club brought remote planes, and so much more! More than 430 people attended the very successful event!

Anjelina Jones, a junior at Cherry School in Mr. Garness' Sustainability class, participated in School Pride Night on May 10. She repurposed 17 No. 10 cans from the school kitchen and made them into bird feeders. She cleaned, painted, drilled holes, installed wires, and hot glued dowels into each can. Wild bird seed accompanied each feeder, along with some information about avian bird flu and how to responsibly feed birds. Attendees at School Pride Night could "purchase" a bird feeder for a donation in an amount of their choosing. Anjelina had two donated birch log feeders available for purchase as well.



Anjelina Jones advertising sustainably-made bird feeders at Cherry School Pride Night.

Kayla Hippolt, a junior in Mr. Garness' Sustainability class at Cherry, grew a variety of flowers from seeds she planted in class. Kayla maintained and cared for 300 seedlings for approximately two months. During that time, Kayla recruited help from Mrs. Cooper's third-grade class in reusing milk cartons and transplanting the seedlings from their trays. A variety of zinnias, marigolds, and petunias were made available at School Pride Night. As a sustainable project requires the balancing of environmental, community, and economic factors, students in the Sustainability class decided to make their projects available to the community for free-will donations. Kayla Hippolt and Anjelina Jones raised over \$400 in their efforts, which will be used to support the Cherry Sustainability Club's future projects.



Kayla Hippolt, junior at Cherry, helps community members pick out flowers that she grew to support the Cherry Sustainability Club at Cherry's School Pride Night.

Third-Grade Sustainability Lessons



Mrs. Cooper's third-grade class at Cherry worked with students in Mr. Garness' Sustainability Class where they learned directly from high schoolers in the class. Kayla, a junior in the class, worked with the students on collecting milk cartons from their lunches to recycle them as plant containers. She then showed them how to transplant the seedlings into these containers. Working with Kayla, the class transplanted flowers to sell as a part of raising funds for future sustainability projects. Each student also received one plant to take home. The class enjoyed learning more about sustainability from Kayla.

ERIK AUNE SIGNS WITH HAMLINE UNIVERSITY



On April 7, North Woods School's defensive back, Erik Aune, signed his National Letter of Intent to play football at Hamline University in St. Paul. The football team is very proud of their teammate and cannot wait to see how he will perform in the future.



Kindergarten 2022-2023

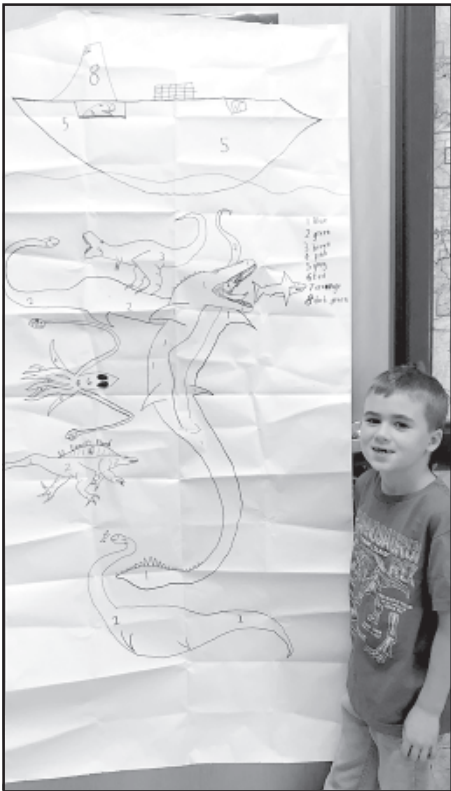
Is your child coming to Kindergarten in the fall?

Let us know! Call your local school today!

Northeast Range Community Theatre



Masterpiece on display at T-S



The Northeast Range Community Theatre group went out with a bang! Their show, *Holder Posey, The Felonious Photographer*, was deemed a wonderful success with amazing acting. Director Joe was extremely proud of the cast and thanks all who supported them!



Tower-Soudan School elementary student Emmett Flood drew a giant color-by-number picture for his first-grade classmates. Emmett's picture has a big ship, people, and sea creatures. His classmates had a blast coloring it together. This masterpiece is on display in the main hallway for the whole school to enjoy.

Northeast Range third-grade takes annual class bicycle ride



Third-grade students at Northeast Range School recently took their annual class bicycle ride. In class, the students learned about bicycle road rules and safety from Officer Hanegmon. They learned to always watch where they are going, obey traffic signs, wear proper shoes, be sure drivers see them on the road, and wear a helmet. Each student received a bicycle helmet and a lock or light for their bicycle. Helmets were purchased by the Chisholm United Way. The class enjoyed an afternoon riding on many of the paved trails around Babbitt.

Help us build our Early Childhood Mailing List!

Do you have a child under the age of 5? If so, we would like to add you to our Early Childhood mailing list.

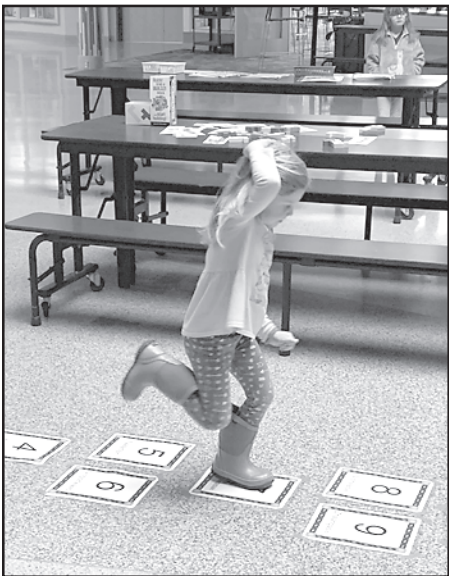
Please call and leave a message for DaNeil at 218-749-8130 ex 1116 or email her at dsirjor@isd2142.k12.mn.us

We need: Parent and child's name (legal names), child's birthday, mailing address, phone number and if you have an email we would like that too!

Early Childhood Fun at NW!



Early Childhood families participated in North Woods School Pride Night on Thursday, April 21. The event, held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the school Commons area, was an evening of fun hands-on games and treats sponsored by ECFE, Title 1, and Indian Education. Student Council members and Peer Helpers assisted with the activities. Large-size games set up around the room and on the stage included corn hole, tic-tac-toe, duck races, Candy Land, caterpillar bucket toss, ball ramp, bowling, ring toss, fish bowl toss, hopscotch word game, and Tenzi dice game. Small-size games were set up on tables along with printable paper games, board games, and math manipulatives shared by elementary teachers.



Tower-Soudan Marathon Runners



Tower-Soudan marathon runners have started training, running one mile at a time. In the Fall, they will be able to complete the full 26.2 miles by running the last 1.2 miles at the Ely Marathon. Go, runners!!!!

Parents— We are here for you!



Check out the Parenting Resources section on our website at <https://www.isd2142.net/page/3003>

On the website you will find four different newsletters that are changed monthly along with a family engagement library full of short brochures on a variety of topics for parents

Cherry 3rd-Graders Visit Hartley Nature Center



The Cherry third-graders visited Hartley Nature Center in Duluth. They were able to explore the ponds to help with tracking insects, wildlife, and water temperatures. Students enjoyed getting to go into the ponds with their water boots and collection nets. The weather was nice for hiking the trails and looking for more pond life. It was a great experience as they wrapped up their Science lessons for the year.